FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 NOVEMBER 1984

PLO

PNC Session — The final meeting of the 17th PNC session, broadcast by Amman Radio, approved the new PLO Executive Committee with Yasir 'Arafat as chairman and Faruq Qaddumi, Mahmud 'Abbas, 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, Muhammad 'Abbas, Jamal al-Surani, Bishop Iliya Khuri, Jawid al-Ghusayn, Fahd al-Qawasimi, 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, and Muhammad Milhim as members. The PNC also authorized the PLO Executive Committee to fill three vacant seats, Amman's *AL-RA'Y* reported. The PNC Political Committee's final statement, carried by Amman radio, in addition to points previously reported resolved to continue the Aden-Algiers dialogue for national unity, affirmed that UN Resolution 242 "disavows our national rights," and held that the Palestine question can only be solved under UN resolutions at an international conference. In addition the statement stressed PLO friendship with the socialist bloc countries, "especially the USSR." In his final speech to the session, also carried on Amman radio, 'Arafat called for armed pursuit of the revolution in spite of "difficulties and conspiracies," thanked the PLO's supporters, and told his "brothers in Syria" that in spite of recent events "our minds are open."

As for Syrian reaction to the PNC final statement, *AL-THAWRAH* called it a document of surrender that shows that 'Arafat is preparing to take new conspiratorial steps, Damascus radio reported.

Contacts With King Husayn — Jordan's King Husayn and high government and military leaders received 'Arafat, PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, and other PLO figures on 29 November, Amman radio reported without further elaboration. In an address to West Bank members of Jordan's legislative bodies, an event carried on Amman television, King Husayn asserted that there could be no bargaining on the land-for-peace principle in Resoluton 242 but explained that this does not mean that the Fes summit, Baghdad, or any new resolutions have no value.

'Arafat-U.S. Contacts — In an interview with *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* cited by AFP, 'Arafat declared that he does not foresee any dialogue between the PLO and the United States because the United States sets recognition of UN Resolution 242 as a precondition. However, Arab sources in Tunis said that Morocco's King Hassan II will convey a message from 'Arafat to U.S. President Ronald Reagan during his upcoming visit to the United States, Amman's *AKHBAR AL-'USBU'* revealed.

Israel

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, in a speech to journalists reported by ITIM, said he did not expect a change in the PLO attitude toward Israel, but believed there could be an overt or covert dialogue with King Husayn. Moreover, he saw a change in Iraq's position in remarks by the Iraqi deputy prime minister that Iraq does not oppose negotiations between Israel and Israel's neighbors. As for meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, a dialogue is under way to prepare for such a meeting, Peres declared. On the subject of the Al-Naqurah talks, the prime minister stated that as long as the negotiations go on the Israeli Government will not mention other options, "such as unilateral withdrawal."

Meanwhile, in a briefing for former U.S. Administration members Sol Linowitz, James Schlesinger, and Lawrence Eagleburger reported by Jerusalem radio, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir disclaimed any room for new initiatives in the Israeli area, adding that rapprochement between King Husayn and 'Arafat is not desirable because of the danger of a terrorist base for the PLO. On the subject of Lebanon, Shamir perceived no signs of Syrian willingness to exert pressure on the Lebanese Government for a solution, the radio added.

In a move noted by *MA'ARIV*, the Israeli ambassador to Washington, on behalf of his government, invited Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz to visit Israel to see that Israel has no designs on the Arab world.

Lebanon

Al-Naqurah Talks — In an official bulletin on its stand at the talks, Lebanon termed the Israeli insistence that the IDF remain in the border area while UNIFIL is deployed to the north a "radical departure" from Security Council Resolution 425 and maintained that Lebanon demands the UNIFIL role specified in the resolution, Beirut radio reported. The head of the Israeli delegation, on the other hand, asserting that deeper UNIFIL deployment is necessary to prevent anti-Israeli terrorism, stated in an interview with Jerusalem radio that the Israeli delegation is in Al-Naqurah precisely to find bases for new resolutions. The Israeli delegate added that he had proposed working toward agreement on the Lebanese willingness for UNIFIL deployment in Tyre and Sidon, but in Lebanon's reply this issue was not mentioned.

Security — The coastal road security plan is set to begin on 6 December, Minister of State for South Lebanon and Reconstruction Affairs Nabih Birri announced, according to Beirut radio. Meanwhile, a Lebanese source in Damascus cited by Radio Monte Carlo claimed that there has been a "noticeable improvement" in the security situation as a direct result of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's visit to Bikfayya. Criminal acts such as the car explosion in 'Alayh will not affect the deployment of the Army, the source added. Israeli forces arrested an Amal officer and other persons in raids in Burj Rahhal and Tyre, Beirut radio disclosed, while Radio Free Lebanon announced that Israeli warplanes overflew the Al-Biqa' valley, drawing antiaircraft fire.

Jordan

Assassination Attempt on Envoy — An attempt to shoot Jordan's charge d'affaires in Athens failed when the would-be assassin's weapon jammed, Athens radio reported, adding that the unidentified attacker escaped.

Husayn Trip to Egypt — King Husayn and Queen Nur will pay a 3-day official visit to Egypt "early next week," according to a royal court source cited on Amman televison.

Gulf Affairs

The closing statement of the 5th GCC summit, carried by KUNA, called on Iran to participate in efforts to find a solution to the Gulf War and affirmed the GCC's readiness to carry out any "direct endeavor" to achieve progress toward dialogue and negotiation. The GCC is determined to continue exerting efforts to find a peaceful solution, the statement said, and it has formulated certain ideas which it hopes will meet "the required response." The statement also expressed support for UN, ICO, and Nonaligned Movement efforts to end the war, and it emphasized the importance and significance of the UN Security Council resolution requiring the preservation of the safety of navigation in the Gulf waterways. On inter-Arab affairs, the GCC expressed willingness to participate in a joint Arab effort to eliminate tensions and reduce differences. Later, Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah announced at a press conference that the GCC countries agreed to form a Gulf military force under joint command that will be ready to intervene whenever any Gulf country is exposed to aggression, KUNA disclosed.

Tunisia

Some 10,000 employees in Tunisia's transport, metallurgy, education, and banking sectors staged a 24-hour strike, Paris radio's French service reported.

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Further Reportage on PNC Meeting in Amman

Session Discusses Recommendations

JN291126 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Amman — The PNC resumed its meetings at noon today. At the beginning of the meeting, the PNC listened to the recommendations and decisions of the Popular Organizations Committee stemming from the council. The recommendations and decisions rejected and condemned any attempt by any party to form alternative or parallel popular organizations to the popular organizations currently in any country. The recommendations called for increasing the representatives of popular organizations in the PNC and for establishing a social security fund. The PNC members discussed these recommendations. It was decided to add the following paragraph to these recommendations: After the committee was informed of the attempts that took place in Syria and Libya to form parallel popular organizations, the PNC decided to condemn and reject such attempts.

The recommendations and decisions of the Committee for Occupied Territories Affairs were read. These recommendations asserted the need to support the Palestinian people in the occupied territories in order to reinforce their steadfastness and struggle, increase funds of supporting steadfastness, and ask the Arab countries to fulfill their financial commitments for supporting steadfastness.

Executive Committee Elected

JN301008 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 30 Nov 84 pp 1, 19

[Excerpts] Amman — The PNC has reelected Yasir 'Arafat as PLO Executive Committee chairman. It has also elected the following as members: Faruq Qaddumi; Mahmud 'Abbas; 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad; Jamal al-Surani; Bishop Iliya Khuri; Jawid al-Ghusayn; Fahd al-Qawasimi; Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya; Muhammad 'Abbas; and Muhammad Milhim. The PNC authorized the PLO Executive Committee to fill the three vacant seats. This authorization goes into effect at the beginning of the next PNC session. The PNC also elected Jawid al-Ghusayn as chairman of the Palestine National Fund and Faruq Qaddumi as head of the PLO Political Department.

Political Statement Issued

JN292058 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1843 GMT 29 Nov 84

["Political statement" of the 17th PNC session read by Nabil Sha'th, chairman of PNC Political Committee, at the council's final meeting held at the Palace of Culture in Amman — live]

[Text] Our PNC held its 17th session on the hills of Amman, which overlook the hills of Jerusalem, and among our kinfolk and brothers in the Jordanian-Palestinian family. For 1 week, this council appealed to, consoled, and greeted our people in our occupied territory in Palestine. It deliberated with them, from across the river, on the issues of the revolution and of destiny, and on the cause of the successive generations — the sacred question of Palestine, which is the question of liberation in order to regain the usurped homeland and rights. In this particular session, the interaction and harmony between the two peoples were warmly and deeply felt.

Our session was opened in the presence of His Majesty King Husayn and the members of his government, as well as several Jordanian and Palestinian national figures. This is in addition to guest delegations from most world countries, and representatives of friendly national democratic forces that support our people's struggle. During the opening session, His Majesty King Husayn delivered a frank, noble speech in which he affirmed his concern for the Palestinian national identity and the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. His majesty also affirmed his government's stand that Jordan will not speak on behalf of the Palestinian people and will continue to exert every possible effort to save Palestine and Jerusalem, but without pursuing a separate solution. His majesty also affirmed Jordan's respect for independent Palestinian decisionmaking, and proposed a formula for joint political action. The council has referred this formula to the Executive Committee for study, in accordance with the procedures approved by our National Council — especially in its 16th and 17th sessions — before undertaking a joint cooperative move with the Arab states.

Representatives of scores of fraternal and friendly states as well as representatives of official, popular, and party organizations addressed this session. All those speeches affirmed the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights; asserted that the PLO is the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people; and asserted that nobody has the right to interfere in its internal affairs or to encroach on its legitimate institutions.

This session was also attended by a large number of observers from the sons of our Palestinian people who came from different places both inside and outside our occupied homeland. Their mere attendance at this session demonstrated their concern for and adherence to our revolution's democratic traditions, which are based on democratic dialogue in the PLO's legitimate institutions, headed by the PNC. They condemned the fascist conspiracies against the orgnaization and its leadership.

The convocation of the PNC embodied the Palestinian national identity, the independent Palestinian decisionmaking, the free Palestinian will, and the legitimacy of the Palestinian resolution as expressed by the PLO, the leader of our people and the symbol of their struggle.

An executive committee has been elected to guarantee the normal operation and effectiveness of the PLO and its institutions, as well as the activity of our people's struggle on all levels and in all arenas, including the Arab and international arenas. Thus, by overcoming all the obstacles and pressures aimed at preventing its convocation, the PNC has achieved the principal objectives for which it held its 17th session. During this session, deep and comprehensive discussions and debates took place. They dealt with complete national and pan-Arab responsibility, with all the various problems, tragedies, and events to which our people and organization were subjected during the period that followed the convening of our 16th PNC session in Algiers in February 1983.

Through this responsible spirit and concern for the supreme national interest, and by placing it above all wounds, the PNC succeeded in making the decisions that will enable it to tackle the results of past painful events, confront future challenges, and find necessary ways of confronting these challenges — ways to guarantee the continuation and escalation of the effectiveness of our struggle, achieve our inalienable national objectives, and promote our pan-Arab action as well as regional and international cooperation in light of Arab and international developments.

From this premise, and as a result of all the speeches and views that were made, including the petitions, cables, and the messages from our kinfolk in the occupied land and from our friends in the world, this council's resolutions include, among other things, the following:

1. The need to continue efforts to achieve a national Palestinian unity of independent will and decisionmaking, and one that honestly and sincerely follows the objectives for which our struggle and organization began and for the sake of which our numerous martyrs have fallen. These resolutions stipulate the need to continue the constructive dialogue that took place in Aden and Algiers in order to achieve national unity. That dialogue and the subsequent agreements were characterized by a spirit that can be regarded as a sound basis for continuing the dialogue between the various national Palestinian forces and organizations. The council's resolutions also stipulate entrusting both the office of the chairman and the Executive Committee to form a committee from its members in order to participate in following up the comprehensive, national dialogue; to enrich it; and to guarantee it successful continuation in achieving and preserving Palestinian national unity.

2. While it considers the right to self-determination, repatriation, and the establishment of a Palestinian state as the introduction and the basis for any just political move toward our cause, the PNC reaffirms its previous sessions' resolutions concerning its stand on Resolution 242, which does not consider our question as one of a people and rights, but one of refugees. Therefore, it disavows our national rights. The PNC rejects all plans which do not contain these rights, particularly the Camp David accords, the autonomy plans, the Reagan plan, and everything which does not recognize our national inalienable rights. The PNC also announced that its independent national decisionmaking is linked to the pan-Arab dimension. The PNC believes that any solution to the Palestine question can only be achieved in accordance with international legitimacy, on the basis of UN resolutions on Palestine, and in the framework of an international conference in which the two superpowers would participate, under the auspices of the United Nations and the UN Security Council in the presence of all concerned parties, including the PLO on equal footing.

3. Inspired by the history of our people's Arab relations, out of its belief in the pan-Arab character of our cause, aware of the infringements on the Arab countries' security and sovereignty as a result of the Palestinian cause, and out of its realization of the importance of Arab solidarity in confronting the U.S.-Zionist alliance which is hostile to our people and seeks to impose hegemony on our people's security and to exploit our resources, the PNC adopted a series of resolutions based on all of this. These resolutions seek to establish an Arab reality that will be capable of confronting the challenges of this alliance at this stage. With respect to Jordan, the PNC decided to continue the efforts to develop relations with Jordan in order to coordinate joint efforts to achieve our common objectives — the liberation of the Palestinian land and individual — on the basis of our firm convictions in the same fate, on the basis of what the Arabs agreed to in Fes, and in cooperation with Arab countries.

With respect to fraternal Syria — whose militant Arab history, geographical and political importance, and military power we appreciate — the PNC recommended the need to overcome the tension and subversion that have affected Palestinian-Syrian relations, and the need to rise above wounds, suffering, and feelings of bitterness in order to carry out a rectification of relationship on a clear and frank basis that will guarantee freedom of Palestinian will and national decisionmaking, as well as dealings on equal footing within the framework of the pan-Arab commitment and far from interference in the two parties' domestic affairs. This would mobilize all resources for confronting the U.S.-Israeli alliance and its schemes.

With respect to fraternal Egypt, whose status and role we appreciate, the PNC explained the established facts in Arab-Egyptian relations and the new developments in Egyptian policy. The PNC asked the PLO Executive Committee to adopt a policy based on this rule, that fulfills the needs of our people in Egypt and the Gaza strip, and works to strengthen relations between the fraternal Egyptian and Palestinian peoples.

With respect to the Iraq-Iran war, which has been going on for more than 4 years, our PNC has urged the PLO Executive Committee and its chairman Brother Yasir 'Arafat to exert more efforts to immediately halt it. This is because ending it will stop the bloodshed of the two Muslim people, and will redress the balance of power in the interest of our nation in its confrontation of the Zionist enemy.

The council notes that the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist forces were attacked while fraternal Iraq and its valiant Army as well as the rest of the region's countries were preoccupied. It also notes that fraternal Iraq responded to all exerted peace efforts to end the war and stop the bloodshed. The council affirms its special resolutions of bolstering and developing relations with the fraternal Arab countries in accordance with the resolutions of the 16th session. The council affirms the continuing support of the Palestinian people and the PLO for the Lebanese people's struggle to liberate their land, and to regain the unity of its territory and people as well as its national sovereignty.

4. The PNC hailed our people in the occupied land in appreciation for their glorious steadfastness in defending their freedom, land, and sanctities — particularly in Jerusalem, where the Al-Aqsa Mosque, the Ibrahimi Mosque, and our Islamic and Christian holy places are being desecrated and threatened with Judaization — against the Zionist occupation and its racist, terrorist practices. The council also hailed the rallying of our people in the occupied homeland around the PLO and its legitimate leadership, as expressed by the rallies in support for the convocation of the council which were crowned by the blood of

martyrs. That is why the council decided to call this 17th session the session of the PNC martyrs. The council also hailed the prisoners and detainees in the enemy's prisons in the occupied land and southern Lebanon. The council adopted several resolutions to bolster our people's steadfastness and resistance until we liberate our land with various legitimate means, the foremost of which is escalating armed struggle.

5. The PNC affirmed all the resolutions governing the PLO's relations of friendship with the socialist countries, the foremost of which is the USSR, the Islamic Conference Organization countries, the Nonaligned Movement, the PRC, the OAU, the Latin American countries, and the various countries, forces, and movements struggling to achieve independence, freedom, justice, and peace and which oppose imperialism, colonialism, and racial discrimination — particularly the peoples of Namibia and South Africa — in our common just struggle against colonialism and racial discrimination.

6. The PNC decided to reassess the situation of the PLO's institutions in order to reactivate it and increase its effectiveness.

At the end of its session, the council expressed its gratitude and appreciation to fraternal Jordan — king, government, and people — for hosting the 17th session and its guests, and for providing all the facilities that contributed to the success of this session. The council especially thanks His Majesty King Husayn [applause] for his stand on the national Palestinian identity, the independence of Palestinian decisionmaking, and the PLO's legitimacy as the Palestinian people's sole representative. The council also thanks all the official and popular delegations that participated in this session and voiced support for our organization and our people's cause. The council expresses its gratitude and appreciation to the brothers in Algeria, the PDRY, and the YAR for their support and strenuous efforts to achieve Palestinian unity. It also expresses gratitude and appreciation to His Majesty King Fahd and the GCC leaders for their honorable stands in supporting our people's struggle. It thanks fraternal Tunisia and its president, the great Mujahid President Habib Bourguiba [applause], for hosting the PLO command under these crucial circumstances and what that entails in terms of responsibilities, which fraternal Tunisia has sincerely and courageously met. It thanks fraternal Iraq and its leader, President Saddam Husayn, who offered to host our national council in Baghdad and who has always been a champion of our people and their partner in struggle. It thanks fraternal Sudan, which hosts our forces on its generous soil. It thanks His Majesty King Hassan of Morocco, chairman of the Jerusalem Committee, who expressed his solidarity with our people and the PLO through a message conveyed by a large official and popular delegation. It also thanks all the Arab leaders who have always been standing alongside us in our struggle march to liberate our homeland.

Our conviction that victory will definitely be achieved has not been shaken. By persevering in the struggle march on all fronts, our national objectives will be achieved, God willing. Glory and immortality to our pure martyrs. It is a revolution until victory. [applause]

'Arafat Addresses Final Meeting

JN300830 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1909 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Speech by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at final meeting of PNC session in Amman on 29 November — live]

[Text] Brothers: In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. To those against whom war is made, permission is given to fight, because they are wronged; and verily God is most powerful for their aid. They are those who have been expelled from their homes in defiance of right, for no cause except they say, "our Lord is God." [Koranic verse]

Brothers, at these historic moments, and at the end of this meeting and this session, I have nothing to add except to address our people, all of our people, in the occupied territory. They are steadfast. Their pride, which is the epitome of the Arab nation's pride, is seen in the eyes of our children, the children of the stones with which they confront this Zionist enemy. They hurl these stones while our other children carry their RPG's in order to make this epic and this legend. They stand beside the tortured prisoners in the Zionist enemy prisons and beside our people in their diaspora. I tell them that our trust is in the morning and the morning is not far off. [applause]

I can only tell our people, every one of them, that the pledge is still the same and the promise has not changed. Let us pursue the course of our revolution while carrying our gun in spite of all the difficulties and conspiracies and return to Palestine and Jerusalem. Yes, my brothers, I say this so those near and far can hear me. In this, we are not seeking fighting for the sake of fighting; we do not seek war for war's sake. We fight this Zionist onslaught in order to liberate our land and shrines. We are not proposing an unusual, peculiar thing. The principles of international legitimacy say that every people who face such occupation and the same circumstances must confront them with all the means of resistance available to them.

I say this in these historic moments while addressing my brothers, the noble, honorable ones in the Arab nation. I tell them that when we demand independent national Palestinian decisionmaking, we do not mean to be regional; we do not mean to withdrew inwardly. We say this because of our pan-Arab position in all its dimensions, ramifications, and roots. I say this because, as I have said, this revolution is Palestinian in character, Arab at heart. I then tell our friends, all of them, and our brothers, all of them, that our revolution has a cultural dimension and world extension. Therefore, this revolution is Palestinian in character, Arab at heart, and international in its roots, dimensions, and ramifications.

Brothers, I can only tell you that the trust being placed in us is a very heavy one. God is my witness when I say this trust comes at these difficult circumstances which require your support and solidarity with us. One hand cannot applaud; one man cannot do everything. But the men, women, and children of our people and nation can perform miracles. My nation cannot meet on folly. Therefore, I tell my brother, the speaker of our PNC and the head of our legitimate council, that you are shouldering this

responsibility with me. You cannot leave us alone. We go together, side by side. We will shoulder our responsibility together until this flag is hoisted, until our children raise this flag over Jerusalem's mosques and churches.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. God hath purchased of the believers their persons and their goods, for theirs in return is the garden of Paradise. They fight in His cause and slay and are slain. A promise binding on Him in truth, through the law, the Gospel, and the Koran. And who is more faithful to his convenant than God? Then rejoice in the bargain which ye have concluded: That is the achievement supreme. [Koranic verse]

Brothers, at this historic moment, I tell His Majesty King Husayn [applause], I tell our one family, the Palestinian-Jordanian family, I tell our Jordanian people on behalf of our people and fighters that we continue on the pledge; we will continue side by side and together on our way to Jerusalem, Jersualem. In your name I thank the Jordanian people. I thank his Majesty, his government, and his Army, and all those who worked with us to make this session a success.

In your name I thank my Brother President Chadli Bendjedid, my Brother President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, my Brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, who exerted their efforts in continuous discussion in order to strengthen the Palestinian unity of ranks. I thank His Majesty King Fahd and his brothers the GCC leaders. I thank Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, whose heir apparent telephoned met a short while ago. I thank them and tell them we meet at the tryst.

I wanted to thank this esteemed old man, President Habib Bourguiba, and his people, who have welcomed the Palestinian leadership. You know that the Palestinian leadership has difficulties and troubles. He and his Tunisian people are bearing our troubles and difficulties.

I thank my brothers in Sudan, my Brother Ja'far Numayri, who plays host to our forces in Sudan.

I send my gratitude to my brother the knight, Saddam Husayn. I tell him that this war will end with the efforts of the Muslims and the nonaligned states so that we will move together with the Iraqi Army, God willing, to Jerusalem. I thank him because I do not forget that when I went to him in Baghdad before coming here to His Majesty King Husayn and told him that we wanted to hold our PNC, he said: Baghdad, Iraq, and the Iraqi people are the Palestinian people's brothers. Do not ask me. Decide and impose on us and on our people, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat].

I address the Lebanese people, who shared with us our woes. I tell them: We are with you, with these nationalist forces, with these Islamic forces which fight with us in the south alongside the nationalist forces. I tell them: We will not allow the plot of sectarian partition in Lebanon to pass. We will fight with you with all our resources. We began our march together and will continue together, God willing, until we liberate southern Lebanon from this Zionist enemy.

The quagmire into which the enemy fell was created by this steadfastness and this Lebanese-Palestinian heroism, which confronted the fiercest Zionist-U.S. imperialist onslaught in modern times — an onslaught during which the Palestinian forces remained steadfast in Beirut for 88 days. I say this because the path is long and arduous, but the Lebanese people are great. They know how to fight so that Lebanon's unity will be restored.

I tell my brothers in Syria that, in spite of all that took place, our minds are open from a position of brotherhood and pan-Arab harmony. I tell them that we are ready to shed Palestinian blood with theirs on the Golan in order to liberate it together.

I tell our people in Egypt — I tell the Egypt of civilization, of the 7,000 years, Egypt which offered 86,000 casualties since 1948 for the sake of Palestine — I tell President Husni Mubarak, who ordered his forces to protect our forces, we will meet with them in Jerusalem, God willing.

I tell my brothers the leaders, kings, and presidents of the Arab states whom I did not mention, starting with my Brother King Hassan, the chairman of the Jerusalem Committee, who sent this big delegation to us, and the other Arab heads of state that in the name of this PNC we call on you to pool our efforts and unify our ranks so that we face this Zionist onslaught with solidarity.

I say this and then address myself to our friends, the Islamic states; the African states and the African leaders who stand by us at all time; the socialist states, led by the friendly USSR; I tell the genuine friends in the PRC, who stand by the Palestinian people through thick and thin and who never ceased extending weapons, equipment, and food that our revolution needs; I tell them that we are together.

I tell my brothers in this council that our policy is nonaligned. Therefore, we play a primary role in the Nonaligned Movement. It is our duty to strengthen the role of the Nonaligned Movement. From this place I tell the chairman of our movement, Rajiv Gandhi, that we are with him in his new position. We tell him: You are the successor of our people's friend, the late Indira Gandhi. [applause] then I tell you together we will march to Jerusalem, to Jersualem, to Jerusalem. Thank you. [applause]

'Arafat Meets Newsmen After PNC Session

JN300850 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 30 Nov 84 pp 1, 19

[Text] Amman (PETRA) — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has said: What His Majesty King Husayn proposed in his inauguration of the PNC meetings was a procedure for action, not substance for action. We expect joint Palestinian-Jordanian action based on an Arab stand to enable us to liberate our occupied territory, including Jerusalem.

Addressing a press conference in the early hours of this morning, 'Arafat added: The Jordanian proposal is a procedure for action, not substance for action, because we agree with His Majesty King Husayn on the Fes plan, which was approved by the Arab states. As for Resolutions 242 and 338, which were accepted by Jordan and Syria, they were among the concepts to which Jordan committed itself. We will plan our future action

and agree as much as possible on all steps. 'Arafat said: I and PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih visited His Majesty King Husayn yesterday. His majesty spoke on the situation in the region and emphasized the importance of the Fes resolutions as a starting point for Arab action.

'Arafat added: We agreed that Jordanian-Palestinian relations are governed by special considerations and that our future action will be on this basis, depending of course on international legality concerning the Palestine question. As proposed by His Majesty King Husayn, we agree on the formula for an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations and the Security Council and with the participation of all parties, including the PLO. 'Arafat said that the differences in the Palestinian arena are not intra-Palestinian but Arab-Palestinian. Certain Arab sides have unfortunately used certain Palestinian leaders, and thus the differences looked intra-Palestinian.

'Arafat said that some of the journalists present at this press conference were in Tripoli during the Israeli and Arab siege of that city. They certainly remember, he added, that the cease-fire reached between us and 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who was Syrian foreign minister at the time, was guaranteed by Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal.

'Arafat said: After the conclusion of the PNC session, we will begin to implement our program. The political program approved by the PNC contains illuminating points for achieving all our objectives, including the return and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state.

Replying to a question, 'Arafat said: Our legitimacy did not need confirmation at any time. We convened the PNC after a delay of 8 months resulting from obstacles placed to prevent its convocation. We convened it here so our people in the occupied territory could see everything.

'Arafat said that on the Palestinian level we will cooperate with all those who signed the Aden-Algiers agreement with us. He added: We abide by the rules and norms stated in our bylaws concerning those who attacked their people in Lebanon. Therefore, the decisions reached by the PNC Legal Committee concerning the dissidents will be carried out, whether we agree or disagree with them. We will observe these decisions. We will face this fascism with more democracy in the jungle of rifles in the conflict arena.

Replying to a question concerning the relationship with Syria, 'Arafat said: I am not here to make any judgments against this or that Arab country. I am here to achieve something for my people in the occupied territory. That is all. We are determined to continue our struggle and to implement our program before our people. The PNC is going ahead with its program to achieve all our objectives on our land.

'Arafat denied that the council elected him before he submitted his resignation to the Executive Committee, thereby violating the Palestine National Charter. He said: My colleagues immediately dealt with the issue to avoid any violation of the constitution. But we call this phenomenon "declaration of allegiance." But I was elected by constitutional means and I was entrusted with the chairmanship of the Executive Committee.

Replying to a question on the possibility of his visiting Cairo, 'Arafat said: Such a visit needs to be discussed in the Executive Committee. 'Arafat praised Egypt's pan-Arab role through the martyrs it offered for the central issue of the Arab nation.

'Arafat concluded his press conference by addressing the steadfast kinfolk in the occupied territory. He said that they are facing up to the challenges. He said: Our people there will not weaken in their resistance of Zionist plans and practices.

PNC Headquarters Transferred to Amman

JN300906 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 30 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — It has been officially decided to transfer the PNC's temporary headquarters from Damascus to Amman in accordance with the PNC bylaws which stipulate that the PNC headquarters should be moved to the country where its speaker lives.

PNC To Transfer Palestine Fund Headquarters

JN291744 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1610 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpt] The PNC decided during yesterday evening's session to transfer headquarters of the Palestine National Fund from Damascus to any place the new PLO Executive Committee chooses. The PNC also expressed the hope that the Executive Committee will adopt the necessary measures to increase the PLO's intrinsic resources and to support the Palestine National Fund organs so that it is able to carry out its duty and preserve the independent Palestinian decisionmaking.

Reagan Reportedly To Receive 'Arafat Message

JN291212 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 29 Nov 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Arab sources in Tunis have said that Morocco's King Hassan II will convey a message from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to the U.S. President during his meeting with him in Washington. King Hassan II will leave for the United States within the next 48 hours. King Hassan II will present aspects of the Palestine cause to the U.S. officials in behalf of the PLO.

'Arafat Criticizes Syrian President

NC291915 Paris AFP in English 1620 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Paris, Nov 29 (AFP) — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO, made a strong attack on Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in an interview in the latest edition of the Paris-based Arab language weekly *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI*.

In the interview, published at the weekend, Mr 'Arafat accused Syria of not fighting when Israel invaded Lebanon and the PLO

was driven out of Beirut in summer 1982.Relations with Damascus were broken off, he said "after our strategic ally showed his true colors." He also accused Syria of reaching accords with various U.S. envoys, starting with Philip Habib in 1982, then Robert McFarlane and most recently Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs.

"As for me, my objective is to defy the Americans and resist their policies, which are intended to destroy the Arab and Palestinian cause," Mr 'Arafat said. He did not envisage any dialogue between the PLO and the United States, because the United States "demands that we recognise U.N. Resolution 242 before any dialogue can open." Security Council Resolution 242 demands the return of all lands occupied by Israel since 1967 and calls on Israel's Arab adversaries to recognize its sovereign existence.

Jordanian-Palestinian Opposition Front Formed

JN291450 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text]A number of Jordanian opposition parties and the Palestinian organizations opposed to Yasir 'Arafat have held a news conference in Damascus to announce the formation of a Jordanian national front. On the Jordanian side, the Ba'th Party, the Provisional Command of the Communist Party, and the Jordanian Revolutionary Party will participate in this front. We recall that all of these parties are banned in Jordan. The Palestinian side will be represented by the Fatah dissident front, the PFLP-GC, the Palestine Liberation Front led by 'Abd al-Fattah Ghanim, and the Fatah Revolutionary Council led by Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna].

Palestinian Front Criticizes Amman PNC

JN291526 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1410 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Damascus, 29 Nov (SANA) — The Palestinian Popular Struggle Front [PPSF] has categorically rejected the political and organizational results of the Amman meeting, considering them null and void. In a political statement it issued today, the PPSF urged all Palestinian forces, groups, and nationalist personalities to expose this meeting's resolutions and to not deal with them. The statement also called on these forces, groups, and personalities to begin an immediate dialogue in order to reach a comprehensive political and organizational agreement for saving the PLO; restoring its unity on national and progressive bases that are hostile to imperialism, Zionism, and reactionism; and undermining the political and organizational results of the Amman meeting.

The PPSF also described the Amman political statement and resolutions as a violation of the Palestine National Charter and the previous PNC resolutions, and as a move that will further exacerbate the crisis in the Palestinian arena as a result of the deviationist rightists' insistence on their policies and capitulatory methods. It added that the current scenario in Amman and the method the Palestinian rightists have adopted to reaffirm their false legitimacy through the Amman meeting express the weakness of the rightists' political and organizational resolutions. It also stressed that what has happened in that meeting revealed the reality of this leadership at both the political and organizational levels, and exposed it to our masses both inside and outside the occupied homeland.

Habash, DFLP on PNC, Palestinian Affairs

JN300651 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Text] PFLP Secretary General George Habash asserted in a statement issued in Damascus that despite the current developments in Amman the PFLP will struggle for a united PNC and for bolstering the alliance with Syria. Without this, he noted, the national and progressive forces will not cooperate again with the Fatah Central Committee. Habash categorically denied that the PFLP had succumbed to Syrian pressure.

The secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] issued a statement distributed to the press in Beirut in which he called on all the Palestinian revolution factions and national figures to pool their efforts against King Husayn's recent initiative which he called the main threat the PLO. The DFLP said that, despite its absence from the PNC meeting in Amman, it will continue to struggle alongside the Palestinian national forces to preserve the PLO as a large framework for the Palestinian people's unity and their revolution.

GULF AFFAIRS

Further Reportage on GCC Summit Meeting

Oman's Qabus Addresses Session

LD291421 Kuwait KUNA in English 1220 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 29 (KUNA) — Sultan Qabus of Oman addressed the closing session of the GCC summit Thursday in his capacity as host for next year's Supreme Council meeting scheduled to be held in Oman.

Sultan Qabus expressed deep appreciation of the "sincere efforts" which have been made during the summit which, he said, contributed to the attainment of results that reflect the importance of further developing cooperation among GCC states. "Our brotherly march has accomplished, during the last few years, significant steps which resulted in positive concepts for our common work. It has also opened new horizons for interaction and integration between the various experiences of members, and also laid down clear bases for coordination and cooperation in various fields," Sultan Qabus said.

"Today, while our peoples look hopefully towards our meetings and expect new gains and achievements with every such gathering, our present talks, thanks to God, have been a further step on the road to furthering cooperation, new dimensions and a new practical concept. This has been achieved through the principles which have been endorsed and the positive decisions which have been adopted for the development of cooperation in the fields of defense and economy as well as for the organization of our mutual pattern of work in several other fields," he continued.

"While we all meet in full conviction of the importance and benefits of taking further steps to develop and expand the spheres of cooperation among our states in all fields for the well-being, stability and welfare of our peoples, our collective responsibility towards ensuring continuity of successful progress for our march requires us always to be keen on selecting various fields and organizing them according to priorities. This would take into account the nature of each stage, the capabilities of member states and their ability to absorb cooperation steps, so that our mutual efforts can acquire the continuous concentration needed for the fulfillment of the tasks and responsibilities which we undertake in a manner that realises the basic interests of all our states," he said.

"While we realise that the concrete results that have been achieved so far in many fields within the framework of our council might look modest in comparison to our expectations, such achievements can be considered a major gain which enables us to look forward towards the future with optimism and confidence in the capability of our march to reach, with the help of God and our combined efforts, the objectives that we all have chosen for this march, and to realise our aspirations for strengthening cooperation and deepening closer affinity among our states in all fields which help to further consolidate its present and future," he said.

With regard to present developments in the area, the sultan of Oman affirmed "the importance of member states efforts aimed at finding a solution to end the Iraq-Iran war" and realises "the peace and stability which we all seek for our region and its countries and peoples."

"The world around us is witnessing today a stage dominated by bitter conflicts and events which bring about new challenges every day. In this connection, while we praise the solidarity of our countries in maintaining their stability, we wish to emphasise the special importance of continuing our joint efforts towards further developing the level of present coordination existing between our self-potential and endeavour, so that we can always be up to the desired level of ability to protect our countries and peoples against the dangers of the present stage and enable them to overcome its challenges and difficulties and to direct their potentials and resources towards realising further goals of construction and development."

At the same time he said, leaders sought "to provide our countries with adequate opportunity to continue carrying out their duties and effective contributions towards the well-being of our region, our Arab and Islamic nations and the international community at large."

He thanked H.H. the amir and the Kuwaiti people for hosting the summit and expressed his gratitude to the GCC General Secretariat for its work in organizing the meeting.

Winding up his statement, Sultan Qabus said that "we concluded our present meeting in the hope of meeting again in the framework of our continuous meetings, God willing, on the road of well-being and cooperation." "We are greatly delighted to express to you our deepest sentiments of welcome for holding the next session of our council in your second homeland Oman, so that our fraternal meeting will be held on its soil," he concluded.

Joint Military Force

NC291746 Paris AFP in English 1725 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 29 (AFP) — The six-state GCC today decided to set up a joint military force to meet any foreign aggression, a GCC summit spokesman said. Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah told the press after the close of the summit that the force would be set up for a limited time under a unified command and would be "prepared to intervene to help any member country threatened with aggression." The GCC groups six Arab states with coastlines facing Iran: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Earlier, a final communique after the fifth summit urged Iran to enter negotiations to end its four-year war with Iraq, while it praised Iraq for its "positive" attitude toward a settlement.

Kuwait Foreign Minister Comments

LD291748 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1652 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 29 Nov (KUNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs and

minister of information, announced tonight that there is an agreement between the GCC countries to form a Gulf military force to combat the dangers which threaten the region of the Arabian Gulf. He told a press conference at the information center in the Kuwait Hilton Hotel that "this force will be ready to intervene whenever any Gulf country is exposed to any aggression."

In this concern, Shaykh Sabah said that the region "will actually be exposed to dangers, and I would like to say that we have agreed and the resolution has been adopted" that the responsibility of maintaining the security and stability in the region lies solely with its countries, without any external intervention. He added that "it has been agreed that there should be a Gulf military force ready for action whenever any country is exposed to aggression."

Shaykh Sabah said that the Gulf force "will be a joint force of all the Arab countries of the Gulf, will have a combined leadership and will exist for a fixed period after which its existence will be reviewed." He added that the force will be formed from the GCC countries "and it is a force which is ready for any emergency in any Gulf country jointly with the forces of the country under aggression." He added that a Gulf rapid deployment force is just "a beginning and there is a serious attempt by the GCC countries to defend the interests of the Gulf countries including the oil tankers and commercial vessels."

On the joint Gulf arms industry, he said that this subject was discussed and it has been agreed that the GCC Council of Ministers, which consists of the foreign ministers, will discuss it during its coming meeting. He explained that "the issue is in our minds and we would like our arms to be from our countries, but there would be no reservation about buying arms from any country." However he pointed out that establishing an arms industry "will take a long time."

Shaykh Sabah Sums Up Meeting

LD291828 Kuwait KUNA in English 1621 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 29 (KUNA) — Kuwait's Deputy Premier Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said here GCC leaders would continue to seek a solution to the Iraq-Iran war.

Leaders of the six states who wound up three days of talks here Thursday called on Iran to respond to peace efforts in the war and expressed appreciation of Iraq's acceptance of mediation bids, Shaykh Sabah told a post-summit news conference Thursday evening.

The Supreme Council also reaffirmed its backing for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and its support the unity, independence and sovereignty of Lebanon, he said.

The summit, comprising the leaders of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, resolved that the six countries would continue overall contacts with Arab states to improve relations between them, he said.

Summing up the summit's proceedings, Shaykh Sabah said that with regard to security and defence GCC leaders had reviewed steps taken so far in the field and reaffirmed its commitment to the principle of self-reliance.

Shaykh Sabah said that particular attention [words indistinct] during the summit to economic issues, with the six states discussing a joint document on development aim and planning.

The leaders called for the urgent completion of studies for a joint gas distribution network between the six countries, and agreed to rules giving locally-made products priority over imports in public sector projects.

The heads of state instructed the GCC Secretariat to draw up tariff plans to protect local industry and to propose incentives for domestic agriculture and manufacturing (?he said). The Supreme Council also approved plans to give GCC nationals property rights in the other member-states, he added. The full text of his statement follows:

The fifth summit conference reviewed the developments of the Iraq-Iran war and decided to continue its ceaseless efforts through direct contacts with both Iraq and Iran with the aim of putting an end to this destructive war. The council has expressed its appreciation of the Iraqi Republic's positive response to the international mediation efforts which sought a peaceful solution to the conflict. The council also called upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to respond positively to the efforts aiming at a solution which would preserve the rights of the two parties.

The Supreme Council also discussed the current Arab situation and the escalation of Arab disputes and decided to continue its contacts with Arab states in order to limit such disputes and endeavor to improve the climate of inter-Arab relations in response to the call of duty and for the sake of collective interest.

The council also discussed developments of the Palestinian issue and reaffirmed its support for the legitimacy of the PLO. and its backing of the organization as the sole legitmate representative of the Palestinian people.

Reviewing the situation in Lebanon, the council emphasized its continued support of Lebanon's unity, independence and territorial sovereignty.

The council also discussed the results achieved by its specialised committees in the fields of defence and security, and stressed the importance of these achievements which seek to translate the principle of self-reliance into a tangible fact.

The council reviewed the document relating to the development objectives and policies of the member states. In view of its importance in defining the background and principles on which development plans are based in each of the member-states, the council decided to mandate the ministerial council to endorse this document during its next session.

And in view of the significance of joint ventures in realizing the economic objectives of the member-states and linking the interests of their nationals, the Supreme Council expressed its sat-

isfaction with the steps taken to implement the unified economic agreement and decided to entrust the General Secretariat with the task of studying the existing joint projects with the aim of developing them and enhancing their effectiveness, as well as studying the possibility of founding new joint projects and necessary means to encourage the citzens to participate in such projects.

The council also stressed the necessity to finalize consultations regarding the construction of a joint network for carrying and distributing gas to consuming areas within the council's states as soon as possible, due to the strategic and economic importance of this scheme.

The council also decided to give priority to national products in governmental schemes of member states.

The council also directed the General Secretariat to complete (?studies) in ensuring [words indistinct] protection for member states' products which have the necessary criteria of competition in price, quality and delivery dates. The General Secretariat was also directed to complete studies on proposed incentives in agricultural, industrial and other productive sectors. The council also renewed the subjects of organizing the acquisition of property among member states and decided to endorse it together with the recommendation submitted by the ministerial council.

The council also decided to renew the appointment of Mr 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah as secretary-general of the GCC for another term of three years.

The council also endorsed the budget of the General Secretariat for the fiscal year 1985 which amounts to 95.7 million Saudi riyals.

No doubt each one of you has his own notes, observation analysis and assessment. We neither can nor wish to dictate any conclusions. But you have every right to be acquainted with our true evaluation of the outcome of the fifth session of the Supreme Council of the GCC Arab countries.

We believe that this conference has attained complete success in achieving its objectives. As you all know, this was the fifth conference of the Supreme Council, and therefore it has been a continuation of an ongoing march. Subsequently we believe that it should be assessed in the light of whatever momentum and power it may have added to the Gulf march.

If we are aware of the magnitude of what has been accomplished during this meeting with regard to joint Gulf work we would realize how much this meeting has achieved.

BAHRAIN

Amir, Delegation Return From Kuwait

GF291542 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1405 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Manama, 29 Nov (WAKH) — Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah and his accompanying delegation arrived in Manama today coming from Kuwait after taking part in the fifth session of the GCC Supreme Council which concluded earlier today. Upon arrival he was received by Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah; Crown Prince and Commander in Chief of the Bahrain Defense Force Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah; and a number of senior military and civilian officials.

Manama Daily on 'Significance' of Gulf Force

GF300806 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT 30 Nov 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 30 Nov (WAKH) — The Bahraini newspaper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* today comments on the resolution by the fifth GCC summit conference to form a unified defense force to defend the Arab Gulf region against any attacks or attempts of foreign interference that would undermine its stability and security and rob it of its rich resources.

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ emphasizes the significance of this resolution and says: It is a practical implementation of the idea that "Gulf security is the responsibility of its people," and cuts the road to all forms of interference by foreign parties seeking to flex their power in the Gulf region. The newspaper affirms that forming a unified Gulf force is an example for the Arab nation, showing unity and actual solidarity in realizing a common goal. The newspaper expresses the hope that all Arab countries will benefit from the experiment of the GCC countries "which have given a living example of the coexistence that is possible between friendly countries without differences and tension and of possible coordination and cooperation in various fields."

KUWAIT

AL-SIYASAH Urges GCC Aid for Bahrain, Oman

GF291716 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 27 Nov 84 P 1

[Editorial: "Bahrain and the Sultanate Have the Right To Participate in Joint Industrial Projects" by Chief Editor Ahmad al-Jarallah]

[Excerpts] The GCC meeting in Kuwait represents a special stage of joint GCC economic projects. On this subject, it must be pointed out that some GCC members such as Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Qatar have vast oil reserves and returns even in light of the current oil production limitation and decreasing prices. The two remaining countries, namely Oman and Bahrain, are faced with economic situations that require attention from the GCC oil countries. In the event of economic recession and necessity for industrial rationalization, Bahrain and Oman must be in a position to benefit from joint industrial and investment projects as though these projects are undertaken within their own territories. These two countries must also be supported in promoting their national industries to the extent of marketing their products in all the GCC countries.

Finally, we want to say that Bahrain and Oman must benefit from the theory of high regional income and redistribution. They must be given economic aid so that we are not in a position to

apply British playwright George Bernard Shaw's description of world affairs: abundant in growth and terrible in distribution.

OMAN

Sultan Returns From GCC Summit Meeting

GF291702 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id and his accompanying delegation returned to the country, with God's care, after participating in the 5th session of the GCC summit.

QATAR

Amir Returns From Kuwait GCC Meeting

GF291900 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1745 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Doha, 29 Nov (WAKH) — Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani returned home today from the State of Kuwait after leading his country's delegation to the fifth session of the GCC Supreme Council which concluded today. Foremost of those who received him were His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and defense minister, and other senior officials.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Comments on GCC Session

LD292357 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has made a statement on his departure from Kuwait at the end of the meetings of the fifth session of the GCC Supreme Council. He said:

I am overjoyed that God enabled me to meet my brothers, their majesties and highnesses the leaders of the Arab Gulf countries, and that he crowned our work with success. The fifth session of the Supreme Council was one of the important stages of cooperation and coordination consolidating the GCC march toward wider horizons of integration and cohesion. It dealt with all the issues aimed at achieving a prosperous life and guaranteeing security and stability for our peoples. It has beocme clear to all that the methodical nature of the march of cooperation and coordination among our states during the short period of our existence since its creation in 1401 H., that is about 4 years only, has led to achievements which are a source of pride. We have made a great step in the various spheres of cooperation, something which makes us feel confident about the march of this council, God willing.

The achievement of economic integration among its members has been one of the top priorities, because economics is the backbone of any cooperation, and because our cooperation in this sphere will serve the aspirations of our peoples for economic development. Following up what has been achieved within the framework of the GCC unified economic agreement, we find that the achievements in this sphere are a source of satisfaction. The agreement has made great strides toward implementation in the spheres of economic cooperation, something which makes our region a unified economic region and an example for economic integration.

In the sphere of defense coordination the council considered in this session all that consolidates the principle of collective security for members within the framework of each state's own forces, within the context of a joint assessment. This stems from a sincere feeling of responsibility toward our peoples and the Islamic and Arab nation. What I want to confirm here is that with our boundless love for nations, peace and stability, it is necessasry to build a defensive force to defend our homelands and countries, capable of defending our achievements and gains and resisting every aggressor and enemy; guarantee security and stability for our peoples; and maintain the independence of our states and region. This is our responsibility in the first place, stemming from the premise that the security of the Gulf is the responsibility of its states and peoples, and that there is no place in the Gulf for any foreign interference or influence.

We do not forget that we are at the start of the road. But our objectives and aspirations are big and we shall work for their achievement, God willing, setting out from our sincere sense of responsibility toward peoples and our Arab and Islamic nation. At the same time we confirm that the GCC is a solid brick made to become a shield for the Arab and Islamic nation. We call with sincere belief for cooperation, mutual assistance and fraternity among the Arab and Islamic peoples. The GCC's clear and firm attitudes confirm our determination to strive for the elimination of differences and rejection of disunity, and to replace disunity and dispute between any parties in the Arab and the Islamic arena with harmony, in consolidation of this arena and in order to maintain its strength and capabilities as supports for our jihad for the recovery of usurped rights and the victory of our causes.

The war between Iraq and Iran and what is prevalent in inter-Arab relations benefit no one but our common enemy, who benefits from this clouded atmosphere and enables it to continue its aggressive policy against our Arab and Islamic nation, whether in Palestine or in Lebanon. The efforts exerted by the GCC aimed at the elimination of these differences, healing this rift, and building bridges of trust and solidarity, are basic premises arising from the council's belief in the inevitability of the common fate and the need to resolve our differences in the spirit that characterizes our Islamic morals and authentic Arab heritage. I beseech God to grant us success and help us achieve the good to which we aspire for our nation and provide us with the strength and determination to continue the march of justice, progress, the achievement of our objectives, and the prosperity and high rank to which we aspire.

Returns From Kuwait Meeting

LD291723 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1545 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 29 Nov (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz returned to Riyadh this evening from Kuwait after attending the fifth session of the GCC Supreme Council.

UAE

President Returns From GCC Meeting

GF291950 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1830 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 29 Nov (WAKH) — UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan returned home today coming from Kuwait after taking part in the GCC summit. Upon arrival he was received by members of the Supreme Federal Council; His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, heir apparent and deputy supreme commander in chief of the Armed Forces; and a number of senior officials.

Briefs

Infiltrators Apprehended — Border and coast guards patrol in the eastern region yesterday arrested 17 Iranian infiltraters who tried to enter the country by ship. They tried to escape, but the patrol chased them and managed to catch and arrest them at the coast of Khawrfacan. They are now awaiting trial. The border guards patrols also arrested 55 Indian infiltraters who tried to reach the coast of Khawrfacan. Al-Fujayrah police arrested 35 Indian infiltraters when they arrived in the port of Dubayy last week. [Text] [*AL-SHARIQAH AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 27 Nov 84 p 1 GF*]

PDRY

Chairman 'Ali Nasir Delivers Anniversary Speech

GF300702 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Speech delivered by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, secretary general of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, on the 17th anniversary of the PDRY's national independence during a popular and military parade in the city of 'Asaq in the governorate of Shabwah on 28 November — recorded]

[Excerpts] Brother citizens. Oh sons of the brave governorate of Shabwah. Oh toilers, farmers, and cooperative workers in factories and workshops. Oh educated comrades in the various institutions of education, study, arts, and media. Oh fighting comrades at the front of defense of the revolution and the homeland. Oh soldiers and officers of the Armed Forces, Popular Police, State Security, and Popular Militia. Oh great masses of the Yemeni people throughout the Yemeni homeland. On the 30th of November, 17 years ago, the people took by force their national independence as British imperialism evacuated forever from our homeland, thus crowning the 14 October popular and armed revolution under the command of the national front. [applause]

On this occasion, we would like to warmly greet our comrade soldiers and officers of the Armed Forces, Popular Police, Popular Militia, and State Security for their struggling role and for their great participation in preserving the sovereignty of the homeland, in preserving the security and the stability of the citizens, and in defending the gains of the revolution. We confirm the determination of the leadership and the party to continue providing the necessary support to our defensive and security capabilities.

Oh brother citizens, our national independence was associated with a momentous historic event in the life of our people — the reunification of the southern part of the homeland — on the road toward reunification of the Yemeni homeland which the imperialists and the reactionary leaders had disintegrated. [applause and chants] The past years have witnessed intensive efforts toward executing the goals of the Yemeni revolution. Foremost of these goals is attaining the unity of the Yemeni people and land on peaceful and democratic bases. [applause] The events which the Yemeni arena has witnessed indicate that the only way to serve the Yemeni people is through joint action by all the nationalists and the honorable sons of the Yemeni people in order to reunify the homeland through peaceful channels. We view the joint action between the leaderships of the two parts of Yemen as being an important step in the direction of unity. [applause] We must continuously develop this cooperation by intensifying unionist efforts and by implementing unionist agreements. On our part we stress our determination to continue the joint action with our brothers in the northern part of the homeland in such a way that serves the vital interests of our Yemeni people and their aspiration for unity. [applause and chants]

Brother citizens. With regard to our responsibility toward our people in maintaining our revolutionary options and protecting our progressive system, and toward anchoring the pillars of security and stability in the region, we will continue our peaceful policy aimed at maintaining security and stability in our region. We will endeavor to contain the dangers of tension and instability that threaten our peoples and strengthen cooperation among the countries of the region on the bases of peaceful coexistence, mutual respect for national sovereignty, and noninterference in one another's internal affairs.

Our stand is based on our conviction of the importance of joint efforts by the countries of the region against hostile imperialist challenges which pose a serious threat to security and stability in all the region's countries, without exception. While we are anxious to preserve stability, which we have reaffirmed in our stands, we will spare no effort in the face of any acts which aim at undermining our people's dignity, territorial sovereignty, and the attainments of the glorious 14th October Revolution.

We have in the past and continue to call for clear and frank stands toward U.S. policy in the region, which is aimed against the interests of our peoples. We have asked, through you, for clear Arab stands toward capitulatory plans, adherence to Arab summit resolutions, and protection of the Palestinian revolution which is threatened with real dangers that are aimed at its unity and progress.

Comrades. We have made, through all our stands and foreign political activities, a practical implementation of the progressive policy which our party and country have adopted on the international level. In this connection, we have achieved great success in our recent visits to Ethiopia, Syria, Algeria, the USSR, Bulgaria,

the GDR, Poland, Mongolia, and the DPRK and in our successful, lucrative, and fruitful talks with the leaders of these countries. [applause] We came back from these countries and conveyed to our people the unlimited solidarity of the peoples of these fraternal and friendly countries with our country. In this respect, I would like to note with all appreciation and pride the ever-increasing relations of internationalist solidarity between our country and all socialist countries led by the friendly USSR. I also would like to express, in the name of our masses, the deepest feelings of thanks and gratitude for the honest internationalist support the USSR and all socialist countries are extending to our party and country to enhance and consolidate our economic and defensive capabilities. [applause] At the same time, we emphasize our determination to continue to strengthen and expand relations of friendship and cooperation with the USSR and all socialist countries on various party, government, and people levels, led in this direction by the great ideology of scientific and proletariat socialism. [applause]

Brother citizens. Once again, I greet you and congratulate you on the 17th anniversary of national independence. Let us move forward for more work and construction to realize the objectives of our YSP — defending the Yemeni revolution, implementing the 5-year plan, and achieving Yemeni unity. Thank you. [applause]

YAR

President Cables Congratulations to PDRY

GF291936 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Nov 84

["Text" of congratulatory cable sent by YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad on PDRY independence day — date not given]

[Text] Dear Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers:
As our Yemeni people in both parts are celebrating the 17th anniversary of its independence from usurping imperialists, it is my pleasure to send you personally, on behalf of myself and all your brothers in the northern part, warmest congratulations and best wishes to be concomitant with prayers to God for mercy and forgiveness for our devoted martyrs who sacrificed their souls bravely for the sake of our dear country's independence, sovereignty, and freedom. I ask God to grant us all success in trying to fulfill, for the Yemeni people in both parts, all its aspirations toward a life of dignity and prosperity within the framework of its desired unity. With my best regards.

[Signed] 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

Presidential Statement Issued on Husayn Visit
NC291331 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 29 Nov (MENA) — It was officially announced here today that King Husayn of Jordan will visit Egypt at the beginning of next week. The Presidential Office has issued the following statement:

In response to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's invitation, His Majesty King Husayn, ruler of the Hashimite Kingdom of Jordan, will pay an official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt at the beginning of next week.

The president is pleased to welcome his great guest to Egypt on behalf of its Arab people, who are proud of the firm ties that link them with the fraternal Jordanian people and with the splendid pan-Arab stances that His Majesty King Husayn has adopted to promote the Arab nation's standing, and to defend its rights and interests.

Mubarak, Husayn To Address People's Assembly
NC291346 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 29 Nov (MENA) — MENA has learned that during his visit to Egypt, King Husayn of Jordan will attend a special session of the People's Assembly with President Husni Mubarak. It has also been learned that King Husayn and President Mubarak will address the assembly on this occasion.

Jordan's 'Arar to Visit Cairo in December
NC291414 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 29 Nov (MENA) — Sulayman 'Arar, Jordanian deputy prime minister and minister of the interior, stopped over at Cairo airport this afternoon coming from Amman enroute to Tunis, to attend the Arab interior ministers conference which begins on Saturday and lasts 3 days.

'Arar said the restoration of relations between Egypt and Jordan is a return to normalcy. The abnormal thing is that there should be no relations between Egypt and the rest of the Arab states, because Egypt dwells in the heart of the Arab nation.

'Arar said he will visit Cairo in December in response to an invitation from Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi to strengthen cooperation in police affairs between the two countries.

The Jordanian guest was received and seen off at the airport by Assistant Interior Minister Major General Muhammad Ra'fat al-Sayyid and Jordanian Ambassador in Cairo Hamani.

Mubarak Address on Palestinian Solidarity Day
NC291811 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1515 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 29 Nov (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has stressed that enabling the Palestinian people to continue their legitimate struggle to obtain their inalienable rights to join the international community as an independent and separate [mutamayyizan] entity will always remain Egypt's pan-Arab, historic, and moral duty, which it will undertake and which it will make — as it has always done — any sacrifice for.

In an address made during the celebrations held today on the occasion marking the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people and read on behalf of His Excellency President Mubarak by Assistant Foreign Minister 'Imran al-Shafi'i, Mubarak said that the restoration of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights will remain the essence of the conflict in the Middle East region. He affirmed that the achievement of peace based on justice is Egypt's historic choice and the honorable alternative to the whirlpool of violence and destruction about to engulf the area and bog it down in a quagmire.

In a message addressed to the chairman of the UN committee on Palestinian rights, President Mubarak asserted that it is high time that regional and international efforts were intensified to achieve peace in the area, on the understanding that enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their right to return and determine their future is the collective responsibility of all the peace-loving forces and the entire international community. [passage indistinct]

Mr Chairman, while it is about to mark the 40th anniversary of its foundation, the United Nations is celebrating today world solidarity with the Palestinian people. This does not only represent an international unanimity with the just Palestinian question, and an extension of the deep awarness of the dimensions of the historic tragedy that befell the Palestinian people, but it also reaffirms the serious commitment to the necessity of seeking to achieve a peaceful, just, lasting, and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East crisis and its core, the Palestinian question.

We believe that the achievement of peace based on justice is the historic option of Egypt and is the honorable alternative to the whirlpool of violence and destruction about to devour the area, throwing it into the abyss.

Egypt also believes just as much that the time has come to intensify all collective regional and international efforts to achieve this noble objective.

Within this framework, Egypt has always confirmed its response to all constructive initiatives, including the UN initiative, which calls for convening an international conference for peace in the Middle East, with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the PLO on an equal footing in its capacity as the legal and sole representative of the Palestinian people. This conference will translate intentions into facts and the desire for coexistence into a historic fact which will safeguard rights and which will be on a legal and lawful basis.

Mr Chairman, Egypt views the UN participation and your and your colleagues' contribution to the committee concerned with exercising the established rights of the Palestinian people with great appreciation and extends its support and backing to the UN's and your efforts.

God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

Questions Raised About U.S. Ra's Banas Presence

PM291119 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 22 Nov 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "U.S. Invitation for Tenders To Build Base at Ra's Banas"]

[Text] People's Assembly member Yasin Saraj al-Din has submitted a question to the deputy prime minister and minister of defense regarding what has been published about a U.S. military presence at the Ra's Banas airbase on the Red Sea, and the meaning of an advertisment by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in an international magazine for the building of aircraft hangers and large fuel tanks at Ra's Banas, which is an Egyptian airbase, despite the repeated assurances by officials that no foreign military bases exist on the country's territory.

The magazine (*MEAD*), published in Britain on 15 October, prints an invitation by the Middle East section of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for international tenders for the building of some large installations at the Egyptian Ra's Banas base, including aircraft hangers, 1.5 million gallon fuel tanks, complete systems for the receipt, filtering, and distribution of aircraft fuel, steel reinforced concrete water tanks, fire truck garages, and complete systems of airfield lighting.

This advertisment is contrary to the repeated statements by senior officials denying the presence of any foreign bases on Egyptian territory. This has prompted Yasin Saraj al-Din's question. During the People's Assembly meeting last Sunday, opposition leader Mumtaz Nassar asked about the truth of reports that there is a U.S. presence at the Ra's Banas base. People's Assembly speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub said: The Egyptian Government affirms that no U.S. military bases exist, and it is not true that the U.S. Government is building any installatidons at Ra's Banas.

Commenting on the same subject, 'Abduh Isma'il, speaking for the government, said that there are no foreign military bases in Egypt, in Ra's Banas or elsewhere.

In the light of all this, *AL-WAFD* wonders where the truth lies.

AL-AHRAM Views Unrest at Al-Azhar University

PM290945 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 28 Nov 84 pp 1, 3

[Chief Editor Ibrahim Nafi' article: "An Individual Incident and an Important, Serious Case"]

[Text] We cannot ignore what happened in Al-Azhar University square over the past few days. The incidents that took place there were something ordinary at first, but in the end led to unexpected results which we hope will not become overblown or exceed their boundaries.

On Jawhar al-Qa'id Street, overlooked by some Al-Azhar University facilities in Nasr Town, a police car hit an Al-Azhar student, who died on the spot. The vehicle driver, a young and irresponsible recruit, fled from the scene of the incident. Colleagues of the dead student gathered at the spot and expressed their feelings toward the tragic incident. When the police were informed, they immediately went into action and arrested the driver only a few hours after the incident. He was investigated by the prosecution and held in custody.

No one imagined that this tragic incident, the like of which often happens in the streets of any crowded city, would be deliberately used by some people with the aim of first turning it into an issue between the students and their professors, then between the students and the entire security authorities. On the day of the incident the students gathered again on the university campus and shouted demands and strongly emotional slogans under the influence of psychological conditions created by the death of one of their colleagues in front of their eyes. These conditions were exacerbated by exaggerated and false rumors about repressive police measures against some students after the incident.

Despite the fact that this was untrue and that it is illogical that the police would seek to repress the students because of an automobile accident, when they were actually engaged in chasing and arresting the culprit to bring him to justice, the students went to see the president of their university — a respectable professor — to express their indignation. While he was having a dialogue with them and listening to all their grievances, some of the students tried to attack him and used abusive words toward him, the like of which Al-Azhar has never heard before, which necessitated summoning the university guards to protect the old man and save his life.

Events then developed faster than anyone expected. The students left the university campus and went out onto the neighboring streets. They tried to obstruct traffic and remove traffic signs in the vicinity of the university. Passersby in the area witnessed this strange behavior, which went on until 2100 hours of the following day. Throughout this time the security authorities were patiently watching the situation and not interfering, except to ensure the flow of traffic from time to time, so that the streets around the university would not become jammed with vehicles.

While the police were cautious and did not allow the students to drag them into unnecessary clashes, the security authorities were photographing the acts of rioting being committed by the students, most important of which was the deliberate obstruction of means of public transport, a crime punishable by a minimum of 3 years imprisonment.

During this time, a large number of students responded to the police appeal to disperse, but 95 students insisted on continuing their gathering and tried to storm the university premises to stage a sit-in until the following morning, so that they could resume their gathering and incitement of their colleagues.

In the end, after 2100 hours, the police forces surrounded them and transported them to investigation centers for interrogation. The State Security Prosecution investigated them regarding the reasons for their gathering after all their colleagues had gone. The police were anxious to not let students spend the night in police stations and therefore moved them to one of the central security headquarters where they were respectfully treated as university students.

At the headquarters they were visited by Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi, who conducted a frank dialogue with them, asking in whose interest this happened and why.

During the dialogue, the interior minister explained to the students the seriousness of what had happened and its irrelevance to its cause, the automobile accident of which one of their colleagues was the victim. He explained that the police did their duty and brought the criminal to justice. He pointed out to them the contrariness of what they were doing to what is taking place in our country with regard to development, tackling major problems, and the country's spending on higher education. He also pointed out to them that at the time they were expressing their feelings toward this incident in a wrong and uncalled for manner, President Mubarak was visiting 'Ayn Shams University, where he spent 3 hours discussing with the professors their studies on solving the housing problem and their national plan to solve problems and ease citizens' hardships.

He pointed out to them that their action is reminiscent of putting a stumbling block in the way of the great efforts to work and build and to ease hardships and solve problems. How can this be acceptable to young men who are supposed to participate in building rather than, under the influence of emotions, wrongly turning toward destruction at a time we need every drop of effort from every young man and citizen?

This was what happened in the past few days on the campus of the world's most ancient university. The beginning, despite its tragic nature, was merely an automobile accident that could happen in any city, but the outcome was out of proportion and illogical, which raises questions about the truth behind what happened at the beginning and in the end.

We will not accuse anyone without evidence or proof, but we are certain that there are people who have a specific interest or objectives behind what happened and who are seeking certain results.

What some people are seeking is to portray Egypt as an unstable country and jeopardize democracy, which enables every citizen to express his views on his country's problems in a legitimate manner.

One of these objectives is certainly to arouse the feeling of young men, by spreading false rumors such as those circulated in Al-Mansurah, for example, alleging that three police majors general were hurt during the student demonstrations and taken to the hospital.

The rumors also alleged that a student was severely beaten and that a female colleague of his died during the incidents.

All these were completely false rumors whose aim is clear, namely to arouse the feelings of young men and prompt them to participate in the incidents.

I can confirm on the basis of the judiciary investigation documents that not a single Al-Azhar student was hurt during these incidents, and that not one policeman was hurt for the simple reason that there was no clash of any kind between the students and the police throughout this time.

In whose interest, then, was what happened? Was it in the interest of democratic practice which we all jealously guard and seek to enhance, support, and enable to continue generation after generation? Or was it an irresponsible attempt to push matters toward a retraction from democracy and toward a dictatorship that rules with steel and fire?

Also, do not those who play with fire without caring for the consequences realize that if the fire spreads it will not differentiate between those who currently practice democracy and those who practice it in an irresponsible manner, not between an oppositionist and a supporter, or a defender and an attacker, and that if the fire spreads it will destroy everything;leaving nothing behind except ash and rubble? Is this really what they want?

President Congratulates Ceausescu on Reelection

JN291355 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1345 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Nov (INA) — President Saddam Husayn, Ba'th Party Regional Command secretary, has congratulated Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party, on his reelection as party secretary general.

A cable sent by President Saddam Husayn says: It pleases us to extend to you sincere congratulations in my name and on behalf of the Ba'th Party Command for the trust the Romanian Communist Party and people have placed in you. On this occasion, we reiterate our eagerness to promote relations of friendship and cooperation which exist between our two parties and people. Please accept our best regards.

Husayn Reiterates 'Forceful Support' for PLO

JN291915 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Nov (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has stated that Iraq's preoccupation with its legitimate defense of its territory, independence, and sovereignty against the aggression the Iranian regime has imposed on it has not weakened its interest in the Palestinian cause and the sufferings of the Palestinians both inside and outside the occupied territories.

In a letter to the chairman of the UN committee on the Palestinian people's inalienable rights on the occasion of the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people, Saddam Husayn highly valued the role the committee has persistently carried out in support of the Palestinian cause and the sincere efforts it is exerting to reaffirm the Palestinian people's firm and inalienable rights in all international forums in accordance with the dictates of international law and the principles of justice and right and in service of peace.

President Saddam Husayn said: There is no doubt that in pursuing your work in this field, you proceed from an assessment of the great importance of seeking a just and lasting solution to this cause, which is important not only to peace and stability in this Arab region,but also to world peace and security.

President Saddam Husayn explained that a review of the events and developments in the region does not herald any hope of attaining such a solution or of establishing peace, security, and stability in the region in the foreseeable future.

President Saddam Husayn stressed that this state of affairs shows that the yoke of the Israeli occupation on the Arab territories has become more oppressive and that the inhumane Zionist practices have continued with increased ferocity without any regard for international law, the principles of justice, or ethics.

President Saddam Husayn said that the entire world is well aware that Arab stands, which are characterized by a positive desire and a sense of responsibility, look forward to a just and honorable solution to the Palestinian cause and the Middle East crisis. However, a serious response which could lead to fruitful results has not been found, despite all of the recurrent calls and affirmations stressing the need to seriously seek a just solution to this cause and this crisis.

Concluding his letter, President Saddam Husayn reiterated Iraq's forceful support for the PLO, its legitimate command, and the unity of its resistance factions against all internal and external consipracies and machinations that seek to sow discord and to fragment the ranks in preparation for liquidating the Palestinian cause and in implementation of the Zionist- imperialist scheme.

Communique No 1,665 on 28-29 Nov Operations

JN291728 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Communique No 1,665 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 29 November 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With a unique steadfastness and an unyielding determination, our valiant Armed Forces continue their activities in the operations sectors in defense of great Iraq and the dignity of its sons and against the defeated Iranian enemy forces. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. With high ability and a precise implementation of duties, our forward units dealt fierce and intensive artillery blows to several enemy positions, troop concentrations, and pieces of equipment in the operations sector east of Basra, inflicting heavy losses in life and equipment on the enemy and destroying five infantry positions, two medium-caliber machine gun positions, and one fuel tank, from which flames were seen rising. Our units also set one hardware stockpile on fire. In another area of the same sector, one vehicle carrying one 106-mm gun was also hit.

2. A force belonging to our forward units attacked enemy positions in the central sector of the battlefield, inflicting heavy losses in life and equipment on the enemy. All members of the force returned safely to their positions. In another area of the same sector, one of our patrols found serviceable weapons and equipment in the no-man's-land.

3. One of our forward units used all types of weapons to pound an enemy troop concentration in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing one and wounding another.

4. The treacherous enemy shelled the Basra suburbs with heavy artillery today.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 November 1984

Zambian Defense Minister Visits Warfront

JN300934 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Nov (INA) — Zambian Defense Minister Clement Mwanashiku and his delegation visited the III Army Corps sector, east of Basra, on the warfront yesterday. Speaking to fighters, the minister expressed his satisfaction with the high

morale of the Iraqi Armed Forces. He said that, despite the long distance that separates Iraq from Zambia, the Zambian Army shares the Iraqi Army's sentiments of pride at their successful war operations against the Iranian aggression.

The Zambian minister and his delegation saw destroyed as well as serviceable Iranian tanks that the Iranian forces had left during the recent battles in that sector. The minister was briefed by the military commanders on the battles their forces have been waging over more than 4 years and on their high morale and efficiency in confronting and defeating the Iranian aggression.

KDP Leader Urges Overthrow of Khomeyni

JN292159 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] The secretary general of the Iranian KDP has affirmed that stability and democracy cannot be restored to Iran until the Khomeyni regime is overthrown. In a news conference in Vienna today, Dr 'Abd al-Rahman Qasimlu said that in addition to the war on which the Iranian regime insists on waging against Iraq, this regime has paved the way for an internal civil war which will lead to the intervention of the superpowers.

The Iranian KDP secretary general said that the Iranian regime has lost more than 35,000 of its forces and Khomeyni guards in the battles that Kurdish revolutionaries have waged since Khomeyni came to power in order to achieve autonomy. He explained that the Iranian regime is also facing a serious crisis as a result of its preoccupation with fighting the Kurds and its war with Iraq — a war in which it has failed to achieve any victory so far.

Qasimlu, who is currently visiting a number of European countries, concluded his news conference by appealing to world public opinion to extend urgent aid to the Kurds in Iran, who are facing a war of annihilation at the hands of the ruling regime in Iran.

King Husayn To Visit Egypt 'Next Week'
JN291846 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1837 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] A responsible source at the Royal Hashemite Court has announced that Their Majesties King Husayn and Queen Nur will pay a 3-day official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt early next week at the invitation of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and his wife.

King Husayn Addresses West Bank, PNC Officials
JN291637 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Address by King Husayn to West Bank members of Jordan's House of Representatives and Senate, and to independent PNC members at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman; date not given — recorded]

[Text] I am glad to meet with my kinfolk and brothers at this stage in our life, a stage which is witnessing this great meeting of our kinfolk and our brothers in our country, and which contains many dangers and difficulties of which we are all aware. I ask Almighty God that this may be a new beginning, in terms of a firm determination to confront the challenge in an effective manner so that right may be restored and the land may be regained. We hope to perform our duty to future generations with our utmost efforts and within the limits of our capabilities, in order to serve and defend our nation throughout the large Arab homeland.

It is a pleasure and an honor for me to address the kinfolk and the brothers on this occasion, in order to clearly submit matters and stands as I see them. It is my duty to remove any questions and doubts about our real intentions. Thanks be to God, these intentions have always been good intentions. These intentions — translated into action, efforts, and jihad — have always had public service as their only objective, so that one day future generations will remember us for our good deeds because they will be experiencing a better life both in this part of the homeland and everywhere in the homeland. Perhaps holding a dialogue with the kinfolk and the brothers on all matters and issues is also a sound beginning. Our fate is one, the objectives are the same, and the goals are identical. It is our fate to confront this challenge united in heart and body.

Naturally, I could not mention everything. I only focused on some titles. For example, when I mentioned UN Security Council Resolution 242, I only mentioned the part which deals with land in exchange for peace. This is the only resolution that was unanimously adopted by the highest international organization. We must inevitably call for implementing this principle. We do not accept any bargaining on it. Naturally, the enemies seek to make the principle itself a topic for discussion and negotiation. I focused on the Rabat Summit because it was the starting point for the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative, which we support with all of our efforts and resources. We have never changed and will never change our stand, God willing. This does not mean that the Fes Summit resolutions or the resolutions of the Baghdad and Amman Summits have no value, or that any new resolutions that may be adopted through a sincere search by the owners of the cause will have no value. We all must adapt ourselves to circumstances in a manner that serves our cause and makes us reach our objectives.

When I focused on the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship and the right to self-determination, I only wanted to focus on what I believed to be a duty and to relieve the cause from any pressures. Under certain circumstances, some parties could try to show that they have a right to interfere. These parties vary from Israel, in particular, to all the other parties which are far away. This matter concerns us, and we must not let it become a topic for argument. In view of the state of affairs we are facing in the occupied territories, and the tribulations of our kinfolk and brothers there, we must seek to attain what should be as soon as possible.

This meeting is one among brothers and kinfolk, a meeting among kinfolk and brothers and on their land. God willing, I hope this will be the new beginning of the march that will overcome all obstacles in the future. If God grants us success and if cooperation and understanding on the Jordanian and Palestinian level attain the aspired form, then there is no doubt that the picture in the Arab homeland, as well as in the entire world, will change for the better. We ask God to grant us success and to help us. Naturally, our most important objective is independent Palestinian decisionmaking and the need to safeguard it. We will remain committed to our obligations. The operation took place out of our conviction, and it was not a maneuver. The solution to the Palestinian problem can only take place with the participation of teh Palestinian people represented by the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative, as the principal and basic party in this operation which seeks to attain the aspired solution. We have never agreed and will never agree that pressures should be imposed on our brothers and kinfolk from any side whatsoever, or that they should be subjected to attempts seeking to impose hegemony on and control over their decision. Once again, I would like to stress that the decision is yours. We will support you, because this is our fate and our duty. It is an honor for us to proceed on this road until all aspirations are fulfilled and until we attain all of our objectives, God willing. I welcome you once again. Almighty God protects the march, and it is he who grants success. [Applause].

King Husayn Receives Al-Sa'ih, 'Arafat
JN291653 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at Al-Nadwah Palace this afternoon PNC Speaker His Holiness Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, PLO members, the Fatah Central Committee members, and the two deputy PNC speakers. The meeting, which was interrupted by a working luncheon, was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, the foreign minister, the information minister, the minister of occupied territories, the director general of the General Department of Intelligence, and the secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court.

Jordanian Diplomat in Athens Attacked
JN291626 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Amman — A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry has made the following statement: At 1230 today, Thursday, a person tried to fire his machinegun at 'Asim Qutayshat, the Jordanian minister plenipotentiary at the Jordanian Embassy in Athens, while the latter was driving his car between the embassy and his house. The perpetrator could not fire his machinegun and commit his crime. He fled. Greek police are investigating the incident and following the perpetrator.

Further Reportage on Al-Naqurah Military Talks

Talks Recess; Stand Explained

NC291213 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Dispatch by Antoine 'Awn, correspondent for the NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY, from Al-Naqurah — recorded]

[Text] The military negotiations with Israel are expected to resume soon. The first session ended at 1200, when the delegations took a lunch break.

In our last message, we said that Israel rejected the Lebanese plan on the Army's deployment south of the Al-Litani to the border and on UNIFIL's role there. It insisted that UNIFIL be deployed north of the areas where the Israeli forces are now present.

The Lebanese stand was clarified in an official bulletin circulated to reporters a little while ago. According to this information, the Israeli delegation still insists that UNIFIL deploy north of the area where the Israeli Army is present and that the Israeli Army remain officially in the border area. Lebanon considers this a radical departure from the text of Security Council Resolution 425.

According to the same information, it is believed that the Israeli delegation is trying to realize gains as a result of its stand, though not supported by international law, which rejects the forcible occupation of others' territory. This stand has also been rejected by UN Security Council resolutions, particularly Resolution 509.

Offering further clarification, a Lebanese military source declared that the disagreement still revolves around UNIFIL's role, which is clearly defined in Resolution 425. Lebanon insists on this definition. Why, then, does the other side demand that this role be changed? The source said that any new UNIFIL deployment should be discussed by Lebanon and the United Nations. He indicated that the Israelis' are giving interpretations to Resolution 425.

Responding to the Israeli allegation that UNIFIL presence along the border does not preclude terrorist activities, especially now that the terrorists have sophisticated weapons that traverse hundreds of kilometers, the Lebanese source said that the Galilee villages continue to be the target of Katyusha rockets fired from areas in the south where the Israelis are now present.

In conclusion, the source said that Lebanon wants very much to arrive at arrangements that would act basically to ensure the safety of its citizens and that would guarantee the withdrawal of the Israeli forces. Lebanon, he added, demands that the other side adopt clear and practical stands, and not positions replete with qualifiers, such as "but," "otherwise," or "provided."

Finally, the source expressed the hope that the talks will not be terminated. He declared that the Lebanese will agree to their continuation, provided that the Israelis do not deliberately abort them.

Al-Hajj Holds News Conference

NC291428 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] The talks at Al-Naqurah between the Lebanese and Israeli military delegations under UN auspices were resumed 20 minutes ago. Our colleague Antoine 'Awn, correspondent for the NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY, provided us with the following report on the most important topics raised in today's session:

[Begin relay] At two news conferences held by the heads of the Lebanese and Israeli delegations before the second round of talks were convened this afternoon, Lebanese chief delegate Staff Brigadier General Muhammad al-Hajj and Israeli chief delegate 'Amos Gilbo'a outlined their positions on today's talks. Gen al-Hajj explained the differences in the Lebanese and Israeli views, stressing the Israeli efforts to distort the role of UNIFIL, UN resolutions, and the Lebanese concept of the Army's deployment in the south. He called on Israel, if it is really seeking the safety of its sons, to withdraw from Lebanon immediately. Brig al-Hajj said:

[Begin recording] [Al-Hajj] the last time we came here, the Israelis proposed an expansion of UNIFIL's role. We told them — Very good, we are with you on the expansion of UNIFIL's role, but the construction of a building cannot start from the fourth floor; we must begin with the ground floor, then follow with the first, second, and third floors. However, the ground floor is not yet complete. Let us finish the ground floor first. Let us go back to Resolution 425, which stipulates that UNIFIL should deploy up to the international border. Let us, therefore, start with this and not do a 180-degree turn and deploy them from the south northward.

Therefore, we proposed a plan for the deployment of UNIFIL from Al-Naqurah to Hasbayya. The Israelis came today and said that there were positive aspects to this plan, but that it was rejected.

[First unidentified reporter] What are these positive aspects?

[Al-Hajj] The deployment of a force in Tyre and in Al-Rashidiyah.

[Second unidentified reporter] Are you prepared for UNIFIL's (?withdrawal from) the area north of that now under Israeli control?

[Al-Hajj] We have said that UNIFIL's role is on the international border. This is a basic issue. In the north, there is a Lebanese Army and there are Lebanese laws that take care of these matters. In other words, we will not permit anarchy up there. The Lebanese Army will be present there.

[Second unidentified reporter] [question indistinct]

[Al-Hajj] If the Lebanese Army cannot ensure order, no one else can, either. This is what I told them last time. The presence of the Israeli Army throughout the area could not ensure security; every day, we hear of actions staged against it. Therefore, despite

all of its might, the Israeli Army could do nothing. Which is more qualified? The Lebanese Army. And why is the Lebanese Army more qualified? Because the members of the Lebanese Army will be among their kinfolk. The 200,000 people in Sidon, of whom the Israeli Army is afraid, are on my side, and not against me.

[Second unidentified reporter] Israel is saying that the Lebanese delegation is obstructing the negotiations. How long can the negotiations continue to deal with oral statements and peripheral issues?

[Al-Hajj] Our country is sovereign, free, and independent. We either respect the principles of sovereignty and independence — and not in words but in deeds, so that the talks can go on — or [words indistinct].

[Second unidentified reporter] Is there a deadlock in the negotiations?

[Al-Hajj] In the past, there was a deadlock. Today, we can say that the atmosphere was somewhat positive. This is as far as the atmosphere goes, but as for positive steps, we have not yet achieved any.

[Second unidentified reporter] Why does Lebanon reject the Israeli plan for the deployment of UNIFIL and the army of south Lebanon?

[Al-Hajj] One begins with one's own borders. This is the important thing. This is the task of UNIFIL, according to Resolution 425. We must start there.

[Second unidentified reporter] Does Lebanon recognize security arrangements for Israel on the northern border?

[Al-Hajj] We recognize security arrangements for the Lebanese citizens in the south.

[Second unidentified reporter] What about the Israeli citizens?

[Al-Hajj] This subject is for them to deal with, not us. However, the measures that we take in southern Lebanon might indirectly lead to our neighbors' security.

[Third unidentified reporter] What prompted this news conference now? Thus far, five sessions have been held and not one news conference was held by you?

[Al-Hajj] I do not like to hold news conferences. But I was told that the Israelis are distorting the facts about us and saying that we are raising obstacles when, in fact, we are more positive than everybody else.

[Fourth unidentified reporter] Just a while ago, the head of the Israeli delegation said — We consider the negotiations to be important; If we did not attach importance to the negotiations, we would not be here; we are here to alter the UN resolutions.

[Al-Hajj] He was only making proposals. We were the ones who asked for the United Nations resolutions. We have the prerogative to do this. Up until now, we have been calling for the application of the old resolutions. So how can we ask for new resolutions?

[Fourth unidentified reporter] [question indistinct]

[Al-Hajj] Somebody asked me recently — Israel is present here and for it to withdraw, you should pay a price. We askedhim what he meant by pay a price? If one goes home, does one ask for anything more? We have come to hold serious discussions so that they may withdraw and we may liberate and take our territory. If we cannot achieve this, what are we holding the negotiations for?

[Fourth unidentified reporter] Is the national resistance an ace in the hole to be used as leverage by the Lebanese negotiator or not?

[Al-Hajj] Undoubtedly. I told them that the Lebanese also have their dignity and their history, not just the Israeli occupier. Many occupiers came to Lebanon before the Israelis. But for how long could they stay? Whatever the position of the Lebanese, the time will come when they will put their dignity above the whole world. They will not allow foreigners to remain on their land.

[Second unidentified reporter] Does this mean that the discussions have (?stopped)?

[Al-Hajj] No. They have not stopped. We are continuing the discussions. We are here to continue discussions so as to succeed, not to fail.

[First unidentified reporter] During the round of talks this afternoon, what are you going to discuss mainly?

[Al-Hajj] I responded to the Israeli side's rejection with principles. I responded with a stand — Do not impose your conditions on me. I am not sitting here so as to listen and obey, or else woe to me? We are sitting together to hold discussions, so do not impose any conditions on me.

[First unidentified reporter] What is going to happen this afternoon?

[Al-Hajj] I do not know. It is his turn to respond.

[First unidentified reporter] Is there anything on the agenda for this afternoon?

[Al-Hajj] We still hold to our proposal regarding the deployment of UNIFIL on the border.

[Second unidentified reporter] Does the Israeli negotiator regard himself as the stronger side in the discussions?

[Al-Hajj] He talks while holding the occupation card as a pressure card. It is as if he is saying that he will not withdraw until we accept his conditions. We do not accept these conditions.

[Fourth unidentified reporter] Conversely, you also have a pressure card — the national resistance.

[Al-Hajj] Our faith and right, these are more important.

[Fourth unidentified reporter] And the national resistance?

[Al-Hajj] As for the Lebanese resistance, every Lebanese will rise for the sake of his dignity in the final analysis. I told them that if they really cared for the Jewish people, they should withdraw. [End recording]

['Awn] as for the head of the Israeli delegation, 'Amos Gilbo'a, he declared that important developments occurred in south Lebanon 6 years ago — developments that changed many realities. So why do we and Lebanon not discuss the situation as it exists on the ground now?

Gilbo'a alleged that he has the impression that the Lebanese are not in a hurry to conclude the discussions. He repeated that his country wants UNIFIL forces to be deployed from the northern line to the southern line without clarifying what he means by the northern line or the southern line.

Gilbo'a drew attention to the fact that he had hoped to achieve security arrangements on the basis of principles to be agreed upon with Lebanon. He said that he was surprised by the stance of the Lebanese Government, which, according to him, is taking the discussions lightly, whereas he sees important factors and principles in the discussions.

While expressing his desire to see the Lebanese Army deployed in the south, Gilbo'a hoped that in return the security of northern Israeli areas would be guaranteed. He repeated that he had asked from the beginning for an important role for UNIFIL, but that this role must be debated with Israel first and then the UN side, because security necessarily concerns them as it does the Lebanese side, according to him.

Gilbo'a concluded by saying: Lebanon has thus far avoided broaching the subject of security arrangements in Jabal al-Baruk.

Meanwhile, the second round of today's talks is continuing and nothing new has as yet been issued regarding it. [End relay]

Talks End; To Resume 3 Dec

NC291412 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] The second round of talks in Al-Naqurah between the Lebanese and Israeli military delegations under UN auspices ended at 1530 today. The following statement was issued and read by UN spokesman Timor Goksel:

The Lebanese and Israeli military delegations have held their sixth meeting under UN auspices to discuss an Israeli withdrawal from and security arrangements in southern Lebanon, the western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya. The next meeting will be held on Monday, 3 December at 0930.

Further Reportage on Security Plan Implementation

Deployment Unaffected by Explosions

JN291319 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpt] A Lebanese source said in Damascus today that a noticeable improvement appeared recently on the security and reconciliation march in Lebanon. This comes as a direct result of last Saturday's visit by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam to Bikfayya, accompanied by Walid Junblatt, and the fruitful, positive meetings with President Amin al-Jumayyil. This positive atmosphere prevailed yesterday during a prolonged luncheon meeting between President al-Jumayyil and Minister Junblatt following the Lebanese Cabinet meeting. This is the first time Junblatt has attended a Cabinet meeting in Ba'abda for over 5 months.

According to the Lebanese source, the agreement between Al-Jumayyil and Junblatt was complete, especially since a joint working group met for hours and agreed to deploy the Army on the coastal road as far as the Al-Awwali River and the Iqlim al-Kharrub area by the middle of next week. It was also agreed to deploy the Army as far as the Madfun bridge at the same time. It was agreed to cool down the Suq al-Gharb front and reopen the Beirut-Damascus highway immediately after that.

However, this optimistic atmosphere was shaken today by open acts of sabotage by the party that does not see that Lebanon's stability suits it. Attempts to disturb the atmosphere began when a booby-trapped car exploded in 'Alayh and caused a number of casualties. It was followed by the launching of a Grad missile on Al-Ashrafiyah, which also led to casualties. Another violent explosion shook Al-Ghubayri, southern Beirut, whose details are unknown yet. However, the Lebanese source said these criminal acts will not affect the deployment of the Army, particularly what was agreed on yesterday between Al-Jumayyil and Junblatt; and will not affect the positive relations between the two men.

December 6 Implementation Date

NC291938 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, and minister of justice, stated this evening that during his meeting with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil today they discussed the security issue and matters related to the Army's deployment on the coastal road. The need to implement the security plan on the coastal road was emphasized and the Thursday following the Prophet's birthday holiday [6 December] has been set as the implementation date at a time when the Cabinet will be convening.

Minister Birri pointed out that the Military Council will meet on Monday to put the final touches to the plan. He said: We hope that on the occasion of the Prophet's birthday, this step will be

taken to mark a holiday for Lebanon and the liberation of the south.

Hamadah on 'Alayh Booby-Trapped Car Explosion

NC291507 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Four citizens were martyred and several others wounded when a booby-trapped car exploded near the 'Alayh telephone exchange. Among the wounded were Tariq, Hana, and Tashayu' Abu Lutayf whose injuries were slight and for whom there is no cause for concern.

Commenting on the explosion, former Minister Marwan Hamadah said: Agents colluding with the Israeli enemy have moved in a new attempt to create sedition among the Lebanese. These agents do not desire national accord or the liberation of the south. They returned to using their old criminal methods following the successful fraternal Syrian initiative. The latest plot was the booby-trapped car which the agent elements set for the civilian citizens in 'Alayh and also the poisonous broadcasts of a radio claiming to speak for rights and for the Druze. We know where this radio is broadcasting from, in whose service it operates, and for what purpose.

Karami Urges Release of Kidnapped Persons

NC291408 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] This afternoon, Prime Minister Rashid Karami received a delegation representing the relatives of those who have been kidnapped. The delegation explained how they are suffering because of the prolonged absence of their sons. After the meeting, the prime minister said:

[Begin Karami recording] I have met with the relatives of those kidnapped. We sympathize with them, given the wrong that has been done to their sons, the responsibility for which must be placed on the awful circumstances that we have experienced of late. We must all do our duty toward them. Hence, I urge whoever might be detaining a kidnapped individual to release him as quickly as possible, for it is wrong to extend this tragedy any longer. [end recording]

Israeli Forces Arrest Amal Official in South

NC300825 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Text] The occupation forces are continuing their actions against the citizens in the south. A spokesman for the Amal Movement has stated that an Israeli infantry force, supported by tanks, raided the township of Burj Rahhal at 0400 Today. The force arrested Amal Official 'Ali Khuraysh, along with Khalil Khalil and Hasan Salim. The inhabitants offered opposition to the enemy, and Khadijah Muhaysh was wounded in the resulting skirmishes. The Israeli forces have also arrested Hasan Hashim in the city of Tyre.

AZTAG Interviews Amal Political Department Official

GF291800 Beirut AZTAG in Armenian 14 Nov 84 P 2

[Interview with Dr Husayn 'Ali Yatim, member of the Lebanese Amal movement political department, by unidentified *AZTAG* correspondent in Beirut — date not given]

[Excerpts] *AZTAG*: Dr Yatim, we learned that you have recently visited Yerevan, where you had meetings with government officials and the supreme Armenian patriarch. What was the occasion of your visit and what are your impressions?

Yatim: In reality, 3 years ago I received an invitation to visit Armenia but the situation in Lebanon and particularly the Israeli invasion hindered my visit. Recently I received an invitation from the the chairman of the Armenian SSR Foreign Relations Commission which stated that celebrations will be held on the 700th anniversary of Kladzor University.

On the Armenian land, I found a nation that is strongly attached to its compatriots overseas. A proof for this is that the Kladzor University celebrations were attended by 40,000 Armenians from the Middle East, Europe, Canada, the United States, and South America. These were intellectuals, scientists, businessmen, and economists. In one word, the elite. It was desirable that the number of the foreign attendants to such an enterprises would have been bigger. I was one of them. On such occasions, bilateral relations and mutual recognition strengthen and deepen.

AZTAG: Who did you hold talks with and on what issues?

Yatim: I met with the foreign minister, the chairman of the Committee of Cultural Relations with compatriots abroad, and the chief of the Eastern Sciences Department of the university. We were also received by Vazgen I, patriarch of all Armenians, in Echmiadzhin. Issues pertaining to the condition of the Armenians overseas, particularly in Lebanon, occupied an important part of our talks. They expressed their gratitude and love to the countries hosting the Armenians and noted that they consider the overseas Armenians the primary subject of their care.

I, in my turn, told them that the Armenians who came to Lebanon due to deportation, and who in that time were needy emigrants bearing the wounds of the massacres carried out against them, gave an incentive of civilization, culture, and construction to the Arabs and the Lebanese as they shaped their healthy society and contributed to the construction of Lebanon.

AZTAG Interview Part Two

GF291830 Beirut AZTAG in Armenian 15 Nov 84 p 2

[Second part of interview with Dr Husayn 'Ali Yatim, member of the political department of the Lebanese Amal movement by unidentified *AZTAG* correspondent in Beirut — date not given]

[Excerpts] *AZTAG*: did you make any statement on the Armenian cause? What was your impression on the Armenian SSR people's approach to the Armenian cause considering you are familiar with the stance of Armenians overseas and in Lebanon?

Yatim: I noticed a complete similarity between their feelings and those of the Armenians in diaspora in this regard, whether they were officials or civilians. The proof for this feeling is that they were calling on the international and Arab circles to be acquainted with the Armenian cause and to not forget that there is a country and a nation with a cause, which should be supported. They were also calling on their guests from overseas to keep up and revive the Armenian cause. They also were calling on the international, Arab, and Islamic circles to comprehend the situation of the Armenians and help them.

During my talks my belief was further strengthened that the Armenians of the Armenian SSR and diaspora consider Lebanon their second motherland, and Beirut the capital of the Armenians in diaspora. Due to that, they bear a great love toward this country and desire its restructure because they see an advantage to their cause in Lebanon's reconstruction.

Al-Asad, Mitterrand Hold Press Conference

JN290926 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2[illegible]GMT 28 Nov 84

[Press conference by President Hafiz al-Asad and French President Francois Mitterrand in Damascus on 28 November; Mitterrand's answers in French with simultaneous translation; questions in either Arabic or French with simultaneous translation — recorded]

[Text] Francois Mitterrand: Ladies and gentlemen, we have set the time to meet with you at this hour to enable me to speak to the media. President Hafiz al-Asad expressed his wish to participate in this meeting. Naturally, this must be very useful in terms of enriching your information.

I will shortly end my visit to Syria, a visit full of several very important meetings and talks in terms of political content and in recalling history, the most beautiful history of mankind, the history of art.

We are here to speak about the political content. We exchanged very rich, long viewpoints yesterday and the day before. They were very necessary. The hospitality accorded me and the French delegation permitted us to tackle everything that seemed useful to us. I express to President Hafiz al-Asad our gratitude for his great hospitality and the frankness that prevailed during the exchange of views between us.

The media men who gather here undoubtedly represent many countries. I place myself at their disposal — and President al-Asad also — to answer questions within the defined time.

French Television Channel 1: At the end of your visit to Syria, can we speak of an improvement or turning point in Syrian-French relations? Do you expect any tangible measures and results in terms of improvement in the political atmosphere between the two countries?

Mitterrand: We had to improve our relations with Syria. In this regard, and as you know, we had to clarify some issues between us. As for the frank discussions held between us, we had to know whether we should continue or follow up a dialogue that took place a long time ago between us, regardless of the differences in our views and opinions on the Near and Middle East, and irrespective of our stands toward world strategy.

This dialogue between us is an important element in the history of our two peoples. Since there are various fields in which France finds it has a number of interests, and since France has a presence, past, and influence in this part of the world, how could we serve peace, calm feelings, and preserve the balance in this region without discussing this with Syria, whose important, decisive role in our time is known to every one of us? We could not have continued our discussion for hours without working for improving ties between us. I think it can be said and without any of us renouncing his basic options that Syrian-French relations have taken a useful, successful line — useful with regard to what France is representing, and successful because dialogue between the two countries cannot stop because this will increase misunderstanding. How can this situation be overcome without frankness and discussions? Since the basis of the existing relations between Syria and France intermixes with our history and is represented by conflicts and periods of friendship and cooperation, it is better to opt for dialogue and for the future instead of stopping at the difficulties known to all.

Dr Sabir Falhut, chairman of the Journalists Union in Syrian and general director of SANA: Your Excellency President Francois Mitterrand, on behalf of the journalists, I welcome you, a dear guest of our people and our leader, struggler President Hafiz al-Asad. Mr. President, how do you assess your meeting with President al-Asad? How do you see the effect of this visit on future relations between Syria and France? How do you assess Syria's role in Lebanon, in returning tranquillity to that fraternal country, and in maintaining the unity of its people and territory?

Mitterrand: I have already clarified before the French press that Syria's role — I would like to answer the second part of your question — in the Near and Middle East is decisive. It is decisive in the trend toward peace and toward the balance in this part of the world. There is no disagreement on this, and we in Paris are sure of this.

This is not a new discovery for us. Our different assessment of some events that have taken place recently in the Near East led in past years and maybe before to discord in our analyses and ideas. In light of this situation, we had differences because of some events. Consequently, we had to choose; should we abandon and reject a frank discussion — a matter which would complicate the situation — or take into consideration reality and the past active relations between Syria and France and begin a dialogue? We found the latter option wise, because this will help us to discover what brings us together.

A great number of Frenchmen lived in Syria and played roles in the fields of science, antiquities, and education. We can say that France was present in some way or another. I must defend this presence and try to develop it. How can I predict the future? We can reach the future easily. The presence of President Hafiz al-Asad, and the long hours we spent in our dialogue to clarify many stands so as to see how we can reach accord on some issues with our devotion to our friendship and options, is behavior that must be followed by political officials.

I believe that France and Syria play an important role in the world. We are helped in this by the contributions of those who preceded us throughout the ages, especially in that last century. In war and peace, we must search for ways to contribute to the international balance. The Middle East occupies the first position in this international balance, and Syria occupies the first position in the Middle East. That is how matters are presented, and that is how we are trying to solve them.

French Television Channel 1: My first question is to President Mitterrand. Is the future of Lebanon among the topics on which there was an agreement? My second question is to President al-Asad. Does President al-Asad believe that France has a special responsibility toward Lebanon, and what is this responsibility?

Mitterrand: In France's view, it is easy to announce our objective in Lebanon — sovereignty, independence, and territorial

integrity. France has always responded to all calls. We will continue to extend our help. You know that France is participating in the UN forces that are assuming a great role in southern Lebanon. There are 80 French observers requested of the French Government and, under its supervision, they are pacifying the atmosphere.

This role is useful since they are asking us for more. You know that we would like Lebanon to assume its responsibilities and to ensure its own security as much as it can — hence the importance of the Lebanese National Army under the authority of a national reconciliation government, if I may say so, and through President al-Jumayyil, with whom I have good relations. I say that this is the correct path, other than what might come up at any moment of course. Therefore, southern Lebanon must regain the freedom of action and movement. This is why France has always supported the Israeli forces' withdrawal from southern Lebanon. I say this and add, to clarify matters, that I am linked to Israel by good relations. But this does not mean that Israel agrees to all initiatives coming from this country.

As far as Syria's role is concerned, it is completely different. We are Europeans. We do not belong to this region. Still, we have had a great impact on it. Regarding Lebanon, there is a common culture, common language, and a long history between us, irrespective of the Lebanese' stands and religious and sectarian affiliations. As for Syria, it is not only from this region, but it is also a part of the Arab nation. This also applies to Lebanon.

No one denies here, I believe, the strong ties between the Syrians and the Lebanese throughout history. Although they come from one family, this does not prevent the establishment of a sovereign state. This is the French stand and there is no room for doubt about it. This is what we clearly said to President al-Asad. It is up to his excellency to express his viewpoint. Since Syria is contributing toward putting an end to this gruelling, bloody war which has been going on for years through agreement with the legal representatives of the Lebanese people, who of us objects to this. The problem, in the long term, is to respect the identity of every country. This is some of what I can say on this subject. This, in short, is France's stand.

President Hafiz al-Asad: We know of course that France has special relations and concerns with Lebanon. This neither conflicts with Lebanon's interests nor with Syria's interests and the historical ties between the citizens in Lebanon and Syria. This special concern has never disturbed us at any time, especially when it is a purely French concern.

As you know, Syria has sacrificed a great deal to stop the civil war in Lebanon. It sacrificed the blood of its sons. Had Lebanon not been linked to us by these ancient, historical ties, the Syrian people would not have made such sacrifices.

It is not harmful to point out here that no other state was prepared to make sacrifices such as those made by the Syrian people to Lebanon.

We do not believe that we are not doing our duty in Lebanon. We care about the sufferings of our Lebanese brothers and sons, just as we care about any incident taking place in our country. This is the sole and main motive that prompted us to respond to the Lebanese legitimate request in 1976. In that year, it requested the entry of our forces into Lebanon to help stop the civil war. We responded to the request at that time. This was also the motive that prompted us to stand against the agreement, which became known as the 17 May agreement, between Lebanon and Israel, and which in fact was an Israeli dictate backed by the United States, as the Lebanese officials told us themselves. It was a dictate on Lebanon; in other words an imposition on Lebanon.

Our opinion then was that through the application of the agreement, Lebanon would turn into an Israeli protectorate, lacking many of the basic elements of sovereignty and independence. This is why we resolutely opposed this agreement on the basis of a firm and broad popular conviction. And so we achieved results.

The talk on Lebanon took up much of our discussions. President Mitterrand showed great interest on this subject. He wanted to know much about the situation in Lebanon, although he also knew much before coming to Syria. I believe that President Mitterrand has felt that Syria is contributing positively and constructively toward improving the situation in Lebanon. As is known, Syria has encouraged the Lebanese sides, that have been warring for many years, to meet inside and outside Lebanon. The conflicting sides in Lebanon then succeeded in forming a national unity government and agreed on a number of reforms. Some of these reforms were carried out, others are being implemented, and yet still others are under discussion. We will be very pleased when Lebanon finally emerges from this crisis and its results. Because this serves our interests which, as I said, are based on the historic ties which make the two countries, or the inhabitants of the two countries, one people. This does not conflict with our existence as two independent states.

Turki Saqr, *AL-BA'TH* director general: President Mitterrand, in light of your discussions with President Hafiz al-Asad, has there been any rapprochment between your viewpoints on the convocation of an international peace conference on the Middle East? If such a development has actually taken place, on what points did you agree?

President Mitterrand: I have previously defined my opinion on convening this conference. President al-Asad's endeavor as an ultimate goal seems suitable as far as I am concerned. We French stress the extreme difficulties that must be overcome before arriving at such a diplomatic result. The past has shown that all mediations have failed and that we cannot embark on a mediation between the parties concerned. No such agreement has been reached so far. The United Nations and Security Council adopted several resolutions, but none has been implemented. The issue depends very much on the method and style of achieving this international objective which will accentuate the French stand.

The question is, what is the sound method of achieving a just peace? France's position on this issue is that it gives the sides concerned the final say. I mean the warring sides, because they are the ones who live and will continue to live in this region. However, the neighboring countries and the countries that have

a say — this is, of course, with the agreement of the United Nations — can, and even should, intervene at the appropriate time. This is what we are doing. It is preferable that we do this together to ensure that our method is correct and to achieve the results for which President Hafiz al-Asad hopes. This is all I can say on this subject.

As for overall stands, we realize that both Syria and France have different stands on the Iraq-Iran war, for example, and on the Arab-Israeli conflict. In spite of this, there are mutual stands, particularly with regard to implementing the international community's resolutions.

A short while ago we spoke about Lebanon. I was very pleased to hear President al-Asad's explanation on the Iraq-Iran war and the historic progression of Syrian stands on the issue that led to a confrontation between Iraq and Iran. No one but President al-Asad could have given me these explanations, which have greatly enriched my knowledge.

As for the Arab-Israeli conflict, it is evident that Israel and Syria are at war, and clearly France has no say in this conflict. France is not a direct partner, but a permanent member of the Security Council. This imposes specific responsibilities on it. You all know that France has accepted all UN resolutions in this regard. Here, I must indicate that France has influence in the Near and Middle East. History has willed that France should have effective relations with the various disputing sides in the region. Therefore, we tackled this subject in a different way because of our multifacited relations with Israel. This is what I said a short while ago. I said good relations, but that does not prevent us from supporting or opposing a certain action in Israeli policy. An example of this is the recent Lebanese-Israeli agreement, which was abrogated upon the Lebanese authority's demand. In brief, I do not want to make a list of the Israeli actions that I oppose, such as the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. I do not chart Israel's policy; it charts its own policies. At any rate, we were among the countries that agreed in 1948 on the establishment of Israel, such that its right to exist is guaranteed. We remain committed to this.

Of course, this does not apply to a country at war, as is the case between Syria and Israel. The dispute between them is extremely severe because it is related to the question of territories. There are also other differences related to the strong bonds with the Arab inhabitants who live in the areas whose borders have not yet been defined. This, of course, does not apply to France. Thus, seeking to achieve identical viewpoints on this issue seems unreasonable because there are other methods. Therefore, we are free to define our stands. However, we have started the discussion and desired to change the way things are to achieve justice for nations and protect countries. Who can object to this? I find this endeavor very useful.

Question by Lebanese paper *AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI*: You spoke in recent statements about human rights, secure borders for countries, and regional balance. First, how can we talk about a country that is continuously expanding and making its borders the subject of negotiations and bargaining? Defending the secure borders of a country that has no recognized secure borders opens the way for the persecution of citizens in southern Lebanon in particular. Second, is there any difference between the rights of the Palestinian citizen who wants to return to his country and the rights of Sakharov, for instance, who wants to leave his country?

Mitterrand: Of course, there is no difference on human rights. What is correct here, is correct there. I do not believe that there can be any dispute over that. It never crossed my mind that we can differentiate between this and that country concerning human rights and their violations. This includes man's right to move freely, to return to his family, to enjoy the right of belonging to the place where he was born, to enjoy the freedom of worship, and to enjoy the right to belong to a minority within a different majority. Unfortunately, this subject has become the preoccupation of officials in the world. It is their daily bread. They defend human rights, which are always violated.

Therefore, there is no difference on this subject between us. You will always find me on the side of the miserable and those who suffer injustice. I am very clear, and I am not trying to avoid the trap you are trying to put me in. But it is important to place every case in the precise context which I stated earlier. If the subject is discussed politically, it will not be different. Principles must converge. But there is an international law; France has contributed to the formulation of this law. In the case you mentioned, France might have a viewpoint different from that of our Arab friends. We, as a state and a nation, have contributed to several major issues; foremost, recognition of Israel. France was not the first to recognize Israel. The USSR preceeded us in that.

Therefore, we are comitted to protecting Israel. But several wars have occurred since the establishment of this state. These wars resulted in a change in the region's map. The United Nations intervened and presented plans on which opinions differed regarding their purports and interpretations. This confirms that there are basic differences between the borders of the recognized state and the areas under Israeli rule. But this situation has not resulted in any legal results, other than what Israel has unilaterally claimed for itself.

I cannot see how France can differ with the Arab states. The reason is simple. The Arab states do not want, and in fact cannot, recognize the reality I referred to, because it conflicts with their convictions and causes a crisis of conscience, even with regard to internationally-recognized borders. Therefore, there is a difference in the assessment of this subject between France and these Arab states. This is natural. The reference to it does not add anything to the nature of the subject. I believe that wisdom must prevail in this difficult debate. France will continue to adhere to its 1984 stand.

[Question indistinct]

Al-Asad: The Lebanese officials have taken into consideration Lebanon's current circumstances. They proposed that they make use of the UN forces currently stationed on Lebanese territory, and also of the Lebanese Army. Lebanon cannot deploy the entire Army in southern Lebanon. There are armed people in Lebanon, as we know, and the Lebanese Government needs to deploy its Army in all parts of Lebanon.

Therefore, it has assigned only a part of its Army to deploy in the south. In the opinion of the Lebanese Government, this part will

not be sufficient to run security affairs in the south. Therefore, it wants to benefit from the UN forces in the border strip.

Naturally, these forces will not have the right — and this is Lebanon's viewpoint, just as it is our viewpoint, and I believe also France's viewpoint — to interfere in Lebanon's internal affairs. They are there to help Lebanon, not to detract from Lebanon's central, legitimate authority. We do not object to this Lebanese proposal. In fact, we back it, because it serves Lebanon and helps the Lebanese Government to establish its legitimate authority over all the Lebanese territories.

What Israel says is something else. Israel has created in southern Lebanon a group of agents and called it the army of south Lebanon. Israel wants this army to occupy a part of southern Lebanon adjacent to the Israeli forces, on the other side, to prevent infiltration. It also wants a second strip of land to be patrolled by the UN forces to prevent infiltration, and a thrid strip patrolled by the Lebanese Army to prevent infiltration. In fact, Israel would also like a fourth strip to be patrolled by Syria to prevent infiltration. I said in my talks yesterday that I fear that soon Israel would also ask, through this mentality, that Turkey set up a rear line in some strip of land to prevent infiltration into Israel. Of course, these delusions and dreams will never materialize. All that is possible are the UN forces which the Lebanese Government can use. There is also the unified Lebanese National Army that is subject to the legitimate authority. The Lebanese Government can use this Army in accordance with its powers and interests in southern Lebanon and elsewhere in Lebanon.

Question: [Words indistinct] on the international conference on the Middle East. It is known that the United States and Israel oppose this stand. I ask about your stand [word indistinct] the French stand that is independent of the U.S. position and unbiased on the Middle East.

Mitterrand: If you put this question to U.S. officials, they will give you correct information on France's independent position. The Israelis will do the same. For us, the best way is the successful way. We cannot speak of success for any of these ways before testing it in practice. We should seek a means of finding a solution to this problem. Contrary to the Americans and the Israelis, we do not reject holding this conference, but we know how fragile it is because experience has proven this. Do not think that such a conference can be an alternative to agreement among the parties concerned. I do not want to recall the discussions at the highest forum, the Untied Nations, and therefore I think that Syria's position is characterized by patience. However, I have no right to say that this stand is bad because this leads to confrontations that may be useful. [as heard] I did not deduce this, but I do know that certain parties refuse to participate in this conference. That is all I have for an answer.

French magazine [name indistinct]: I would like to ask three [as heard] questions of President al-Asad. The first concerns the Syrian forces' entry into Lebanon. Who exactly asked Syria to intervene in 1976? The second question is that President al-Jumayyil, when he took over as president, made many requests to the Arab League to end the presence of the Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon and bring about the Syrian forces' withdrawal. He sent a letter to this effect in September 1983. I would like to know your position on this subject.

Al-Asad: In short, the one who requested the entry of the Syrian forces into Lebanon is former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah. He said so more than once, and you may ask him if you like. At that time, he sent a letter to the Arab League secretary general in which he affirmed the legitimacy of the Syrian intervention and presence in Lebanon. The letter is now in the Arab League; it was distributed among the Arab states. Of course, we have a copy of that letter. If you go to Franjiyah, he will probably give you a copy.

Our relations with President al-Jumayyil are good and our contacts are continuing. We extend to him all possible fraternal assistance in his capacity as president of Lebanon.

As for the letter you said he sent in 1983, this letter was sent under the pressure of circumstances that prevailed then, and under the pressure of the Israelis, who practically occupied Beirut itself. It was also sent under U.S. pressure. The letter was not prompted by himself, just like the 17 May agreement, which I just mentioned and which infringes on basic elements of Lebanon's sovereignty. If you ask President Amin al-Jumayyil now, he will tell you as he tells everyone — and we read this in the media — that his relations with us in Syria are good and that Syria is extending good, useful assistance to Lebanon. Syria may be the only one that is exerting efforts that occupy a great part of the time of Syrian officials and consume great amounts of energy in various fields — in the military, media, and economic spheres. We do not find any other side taking part in sacrificing for Lebanon, especially to this extent.

If the answer is not enough, I can elaborate.

Question by *LE FIGARO* magazine: Undoubtedly, you have discussed the Palestinian question. Have you made any progress?

Mitterrand: Concerning the Palestinian question, I do not think that we have made any progress. This is because France does not possess effective means. We are convinced that we cannot solve this question instead of those who are concerned with it. Perhaps your question is confined to the PLO Palestinians and does not include all the issues in the Palestinian-Israeli struggle. I think that is what you mean by your question.

The French position is extremely simple. The Palestinians themselves have to choose their leaders and we will talk with these leaders. You are aware that there is no official French recognition of the PLO as a state. It is a military, fighting organization. However, we have relations. Even before I became president, there was a PLO office in Paris and we had relations. Since then, our external relations minister had the chance of meeting with a number of PLO officials, including Yasir 'Arafat. As a foreign state, we deal with the leaders concerned and we have no choice in this regard. This is my answer. I may add that if progress has to be made, the Palestinians have to make it, not me. We may be able to offer good advice, but advice is unheard at this time. I have nothing to add.

Question by French Television, Channel 1: But you have an opinion of Yasir 'Arafat that is different from that of President al-Asad.

Mitterrand: All that can be said is that when there is a meeting between one of our officials and a Palestinian official, we do not choose this Palestinian official but he is chosen by the PLO. This seems to be very simple.

[Question indistinct]

Al-Asad: We did not discuss the internal Palestinian situation. We did not find the need to discuss this issue. The Palestinian situation concerns the Palestinians, exactly as President Mitterrand said. They decide who their leaders are and they also decide the path their leaders should take. Concerning us in Syria, there are no problems of a personal nature. The question is that of the Palestinian arena. Every people have their own pioneers in the circumstances of struggle and the Palestinian people's pioneers are the resistance factions and everything that the resistance factions approve, we in Syria support. That is the policy we have been following for many years. We extend help to them in many forms and we advise them to solve their internal problems in a constructive manner. This does not mean that we have no opinion on the behavior of this or that faction and on their practices. However, this opinion does not reach the point of making decisions. We do not wish it to reach that point because eventually, these factions, which form the PLO, must eventually make decisions.

In any case, these issues are enjoying intensive efforts by the Palestinians concerned and I do not think that the meeting between President Mitterrand and me will decide who will lead the Palestinians. The Palestinians have their own leaders who are mature and efficient and who exercised struggle over many years. They are capable of continuing their march. These strugglers, who beleive in their homeland and cause, are the ones who will decide the future of the Palestinian cause. They will basically decide the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. In any case, Syria will remain an open territory for these fighters. It will continue to extend support and assistance to them. Syria will not allow simple, secondary considerations to overwhelm the basic, important issues. We support the Palestinian cause; rather, the Palestinian cause is our cause and in the same way as it is the cause of every Palestinian in the West Bank or Gaza Strip. Otherwise, there would not have been any justification for us to work day and night to bolster the means of our steadfastness and to strengthen our Armed Forces. You know that all of this is taking place at the expense of our people's standard of living and at the expense of the bread consumed by the Syrian citizen. We do this and offer thousands of martyrs. We offered these many thousands for the Palestinian cause, not for the sake of this or that Palestinian citizen, but for the sake of a cause which is the cause of every Syrian citizen.

In conclusion we may say that it is not us who decide internal issues of an organizational nature. However, no one can make decisions on the Palestinian cause itself. Only all of those who offered sacrifices over many years for the Palestinian cause can make such decisions. He who sacrifices blood for Palestine is basically the one who has the right to contribute toward a final decision on that cause.

As'ad Haydar from Paris-based magazine *AL-MUSTAQBAL*: Do you view the Lebanese resistance actions in southern Lebanon as legitimate or terrorist actions? If France considers them resistance actions, what assistance can France extend to this resistance?

Mitterrand: I do not understand your question. It seems to be — there are resistance actions carried out by Lebanese in the south against the Israeli Army. Do we approve of such actions? Is this what you mean?

Every state and every people defends its interests in the manner it chooses. What is urgently required is that everyone returns to his place. Once this is done, such acts, which sometimes take the stamp of terrorism, will come to an end.

I believe that Israel is entitled to discuss and negotiate for the sake of guaranteeing its security. Such discussion, I believe, is useful. However, Israel has no right to stay in Lebanon and it should not have entered Lebanon in the first place.

The actions taking place in the south have to do with the conviction of that region's inhabitants, and it is not my task to encourage them. Nevertheless, I think that the Lebanese National Army should play its role summed up in preserving security within the state's borders. Pending this happening, it is useful to have guaranteeing UN forces in southern Lebanon. In my conviction, this will be good as it will remove this fearful entanglement between terrorism and persecution which increases grudges and to which we must find another solution at this time by a quick pullout of the Israeli forces. The problem will then end. This is my opnion and this is what I will say to Shim'on Peres, with whom I have an old friendship and whom I will receive in Paris after a few days. You know that we are linked by a friendship of several years, and this will enable us to be frank.

[Unidentified questioner]: Mr President, I would like to know if you feel very satisfied when President al-Asad appears to be equating terrorism with national resistance.

Mitterrand: I think President al-Asad talked about the West Bank territories and Lebanon yesterday. Is it not so? However, I answered about Lebanon a short while ago. I condemn every form of terrorism which in general reaches the innocent. As for the rest, it is a military problem. Each of us knows that France practiced that at one time. Everything military and organized can be understood, but anything that has a fatal effect on the innocent must, in my opinion, be prevented. This is my reply.

(Ardieux Vansan) from French radio and television in Luxembourg: Mr President, my first question is directed to President Mitterrand. During your talks, did you have the chance to brief President al-Asad on the conviction of many French who believe that Syria might in one way or another have played a role in activities that were painful to France, particularly the death of a French ambassador and some French soldiers in Lebanon? On the other hand, and concerning terrorism, its emergence in international life, and its possible employment by some states,

did you have the chance to express your opinion about this subject? Now my question to both presidents, have you reached similar results?

Mitterrand: I do not speak two languages — one public and another private; it is one language. Therefore, President al-Asad was well aware of my stands before we met. There was no contradiction in my words. Terrorism is characterized by being unidentified in most cases. France, or the French Government, could not accuse anyone. There were some press articles and claims, whose origin was unknown to me. However, it was not possible to say that the death of Ambassador Delamare or the successive tragic explosions in Beirut stemmed from Syria. Since President al-Asad has always stressed that matters are not as rumored, I do not see why we should cast doubt on his words.

There was a problem about which we did not talk. We accused Syria of being responsible for it. It is the subject of Rue Marbuef. But the matter here was related to a crime in which some French fell as victims. It was somehow a distant affair representing internal conflicts among citizens from the Middle East countries. The matter here pertains to the Lebanese. Naturally, that was not allowed on French territory. At that time we held diplomatic contacts with Syria, although I am completely unable to identify the perpetrators. The moment this question was presented, it meant that our relations were not that good. Was it not better for us to move in an intentional and enlightened manner to another atmosphere, not that of exchanging suspicions? My position on terrorism is well known because I do not approve of it.

Al-Asad: If the questioner thinks that I will scream in his face, I will not do that, especially since he is a guest and it is our custom to be kind to guests. I do not know what basis, excuse, or justification French journalists depended on in accusing Syria of engaging in acts of terrorism in France. I regret to say that the stand of some of those who wrote on the subject was not objective. If it were objective, it would have depended on facts and cogent proof. Also, if this stand were objective, these people would have been concerned by the explosion which occurred inside the Syrian Embassy in Paris, just as they were concerned about the explosion on Rue Marbeuf. There was no such concern, according to what I have read. This is another factor confirming the lack of objectivity in the campaign or articles that accused Syria of engaging in acts of terrorism in Paris.

The important thing is to examine Syria's interest in such acts. What interest does Syria have in an explosion in Paris? Had there been any interest, we would have said that Syria had violated certain international laws and norms by carrying out such acts. But I do not see any interest. Syria denounces and condemns terrorism, in the sense of terrorism, as a whole. But as I said in previous meetings with some of the French journalists present here, and others who may not be present, when we concentrate on the concept of terrorism, we must also concentrate on the concept of national terrorism, so that the concept of terrorism does not dominate people's minds to the extent of eliminating any thought about national resistance against foreign invasion.

You in France carried out resistance against invasion. We in Syria have also carried out resistance. Most nations that have been exposed to occupation and invasion have also carried out resistance under different circumstances and by different means.

You spoke a great deal about resistance in previous meetings, but I did not hear a single word from you about the national resistance in Lebanon. We talk about terrorism in Lebanon, but not about the national resistance in Lebanon. We talk about terrorism in Lebanon because of a bomb that went off somewhere. Yet, we ignore the thousands of tons of bombs that fell on buildings and civilians in Beirut and in various Lebanese villages. These bombs did not fall on soldiers, but on children and women. This is the enormous terrorism which we must continue to write about, not just during the short period when the bombing occurred. This tragedy is unprecedented in history. A state that is technologically advanced, and that imports technology from a technologically advanced superpower, uses this advanced technology in bombing a densely populated city and kills thousands — and in fact tens of thousands — of people. This is the enormous terrorism.

This does not mean that I am justifying small acts of terrorism. We in Syria are against terrorism as a whole wherever it may occur in this world. But we are also for national resistance against foreign invasion as a whole, also anywhere in this world. I do not think that we differ objectively on this matter.

I repeat, Syria has no connection with what took place in France. You have heard this several times. Still, some people like to raise this topic. I would like to assure you that these repeated questions do not disturb us at all. You can ask any number of times on any topic you like.

[Unidentified questioner]: Question to President Francois Mitterrand and President Hafiz al-Asad; for some time now you have talked about the strategic balance. President Mitterrand did the same. [Words indistinct] do you mean Syrian-Israeli or Arab-Israeli strategic balance, or what? Thank you.

Mitterrand: As far as I am concerned — I can tell you from my talk on the strategic problem with President al-Asad — each one of us has different friendships and different arrangements in determining these friendships. This is well known, particularly in the three main spheres constituting the keypoint of your question; Iraq and Iran, Israel and the Arab states, and Lebanon, although as far as Lebanon is concerned what we have already discussed is sufficient to determine the many points we agree on — that all this falls within the strategic concept, and you yourself have used this term. Since our two countries know one another and are starting a dialogue, which is bound to be positive and viewed constructively for the sake of better mutual understanding, they can make their voices heard on certain main ideas wherever they may be. The first is the idea of balance. As you know, I always talk about East-West balance in Europe. But the balance of power in other parts of the world, especially in the most sensitive areas, is a subject which we must pause at. How can I be surprised when my words in Europe are repeated by President al-Asad with regard to the Near and Middle East?

I would like to say that one of the important topics in our talks was our envisionment of this essential balance. My concern began with weapons which can destroy the world. Then we discussed

practical matters in daily life and how to solve wars, conflicts, and acts of violence when they break out, or how to contain them if we cannot find solutions. Therefore, I can say that this was the most sensitive point on which we spoke a great deal with President al-Asad in our examination of the world situation which, to me the European, means the current situation in Europe, and to President Hafiz al-Asad the situation in the Near and Middle East. But President al-Asad is also concerned about Europe. We are not prisoners or isolated from one another. But we have different legacies in our concerns.

Al-Asad: President Mitterrand has already answered this question. I also say that we have discussed this topic extensively. It took up much of our time. I say that peace and balance go together. Our efforts for balance are also efforts for peace. This fact is confirmed by past historical events in our region and elsewhere in the world. The conflict is Arab-Israeli, but the fact is, Syria represents the Arab side in this phase, and Israel is Israel as it has always been. We must achieve a balance between Syria and Israel, otherwise we will not achieve the peace we aspire for.

We are serious in our search for peace. We have repeatedly announced this; we are repeatedly announcing it now. But we will not live under any delusions in the present or the future. Peace in the absence of a balance is objectively difficult to achieve.

Antoine Abu Samrah of Radio Monte Carlo: Question for His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad; you said that since 1976 you have been trying to end the Lebanese tragedy and so far it has not ended [words indistinct]. When and how do you think will it end?

Al-Asad: It is true that we have been seeking to solve the Lebanese question since 1976. Nevertheless, it still exists. During our talks yesterday we touched on what may constitute an answer to this question. Since 1976 we have been saying that the only way for Lebanon to overcome its crisis is dialogue and then accord among the Lebanese. Since then we have been saying that there is no other way. Now that 8 years have elapsed, we emphasize and all are convinced that there is no other way.

This has not been accomplished because of the extensive interference by several sides. In our opinion, such interference was not in the interest of Lebanon and did not lead to dialogue. The Israeli interference in particular delayed this accord and subsequently delayed the solution they and we are waiting for.

In your question you said that the situation is inclined to improve, and this is a good sign. We hope this improvement will continue, develop, and increase so that we can reach the aspired end to this crisis. I think that every observer can note this improvement. Some difficulties arise occasionally, but nothing good can take place in life without efforts and before difficulties are overcome. This is what we are helping to overcome and this is what the various Lebanese sides are now working for. All sides now emphasize that they adhere to dialogue to attain accord.

(*IDDO*) magazine correspondent: For President Hafiz al-Asad; please allow me to ask again. You referred to a document justifying the Syrian intervention. Is there a document requesting Syrian intervention? On the other hand, you have not answered my question on diplomatic relations. I would also like to ask President Mitterrand if he has invited President al-Asad to visit France.

Mitterrand: We have not issued new invitations because today I am returning the visit President al-Asad paid to Paris in 1976. Eight years elapsed before France could reciprocate this visit of goodwill and friendship. The time has come to repay this visit in 1984. Shall we renew invitations? Certainly. I think the Syrian president will come to France one day. This is commendable. We have not thought of this because we are at the end of a process that has attained its purpose. Therefore, we have not thought of renewing invitations because we had other topics to discuss. Had we posed this question, we would have found an answer to it, but we did not do so and the matter is obvious.

Al-Asad: In fact, I did not understand the question. Is the question — is there another document, and about what?

(*IDDO*) magazine correspondent: Yes, I asked if there is another document referring to the summoning of the Syrian forces, that is, a document before your intervention and not after it, as you said.

Al-Asad: I said that you can go and ask the one who requested it. He is alive and present. I think this is the most important document I can show you. Contacts between us were not in the form of correspondence. Delegations and persons came and talked about this subject. The president of Lebanon at that time is present and you can see him. I think this is a sufficient document.

Marwan Mahayini of newspaper *TISHRIN*: Your Excellency President Mitterrand, could we have a more precise and clearer picture of France's stand toward Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights? Will you raise this subejct with your friend Peres and the Israeli officials?

Mitterrand: I expressed my opinion about that development when it took place. I also wrote about it. I spoke and wrote again when a legal status was determined unilaterally by Israel. It is a new legal question. It is an obvious matter that relates to territories not Israeli, and that were not so any day and at any age. The Golan Heights were and continue to be Syria's property. Israel should consider the way to deal with this issue. On the level of international law, my stand has always been clear and it never occurred to me that I should recall my stand today. This part of the Golan Heights is Syrian territory. This is quite clear.

Al-Asad Message to UN on Palestinian Rights

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["Text" of message from President Hafiz al-Asad to the chairman of UN Committee on Palestinian People's Inalienable Rights on the International Day of Solidarity With Palestinian People — date not given]

[Text] Mr Chairman of the UN Committee on the Palestinian People's Inalienable Rights, United Nations, New York, Geneva:

I send to your committee, convening on the International Day for Solidarity With the Arab Palestinian People, the Syrian Arab people's greetings and my personal greetings. The UN decision to hold an International Day for Solidarity With the Arab Palestinian People is one of the ways to support the Arab Palestinian people's rights usurped by Israel through armed aggression, occupation, and with the practice of repression, coercion, racial discrimination, and displacement in occupied Arab territory. The UN decision is recognition of the Arab Palestinian people's right to receive support from all freedom-loving people in the world.

To us in Syria, the Arab Palestinian people's cause constitutes our basic issue. It is the crux of our struggle against aggression and occupation, and for just peace.

Palestinian territory is part of the Arab homeland. In fact, it is the heart of the Arab homeland. The Palestinian people are part of the Arab nation with which we are affiliated. Consequently, the aggression against the Palestinian people is also aimed at the Arab nation and is the beginning of Israel's expansionist scheme to establish the state of Greater Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates.

The UN General Assembly and the various councils, particularly the Security Council, have issued many resolutions asserting the Palestinian people's inalienable rights. Despite this, these rights are still usurped because of Israel's insistence on disregarding these resolutions and challenging the United Nations, as well as because of U.S. support for Israel in its stand.

I am confident that you will take this situation into consideration in your deliberations, and will issue suitable recommendations that support the Arab Palestinian people's inalienable rights, including their right to self-determination, to return, and to establish their independent state on their homeland's territory.

I reiterate our greetings to you, hoping that your committee will succeed in its mission.

[Signed] Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic

Al-Asad Receives Algerian Foreign Minister

JN291433 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1420 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Damascus, 29 Nov (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad received Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi at 1300 today. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and Algerian Ambassador in Damascus Salih Boujoumaa attended the meeting. The talks dealt with the situation in the region and in the Arab arena, as well as issues of common interest.

Vice President Khaddam Receives GDR Officials

JN291911 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received the GDR minister of religion [title as heard] this morning. Minister of Religious Trust Muhammad al-Khatib and the GDR ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. The talks revolved around bilateral relations and the current situation in the region.

Al-Qadhdhafi Phone Call to Al-Asad Reported

JN291702 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad last night received a telephone call from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya. The conversation during this contact, revolved around the situation in the region, some Arab issues, and other issues of mutual interest.

AL-THAWRAH: Statement 'Document of Surrender'

JN300633 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 30 Nov 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper *AL-THAWRAH* says: The Amman council ended its deliberations by consecrating the path of deviation and capitulation that 'Arafat established in full coordination and consultation with King Husayn. Any reading in the document of surrender, that is, the final statement of the council, will lead us to this result and affirm that the council was held only to approve the steps of the plot beginning with 'Arafat's visit to the Camp David regime in Egypt, continuing with King Husayn's liquidationist initiative, and ending with electing an illegal executive committee, because it stemmed from an illegal PNC and because all kinds of national opposition were shunned from the council as well as from the executive committee. This shows that 'Arafat is preparing to embark on new conspiratorial steps under this capitulationist cover provided by the forged Amman PNC.

Concluding, *AL-THAWRAH* says: The document of surrender issued by the Amman council will remain a mark of disgrace for the agents which reveals the truth behind their connection and exposes their participation in the plot to liquidate the cause of Palestine, the Palestinian people, the PLO, and the Palestinian revolution.

Reportage on Al-Naqurah Talks 29 Nov Session

UNIFIL Deployment in Tyre, Sidon

TA290934 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0925 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] The Lebanese delegation to the Al-Naqurah talks this morning expressed willingness to deploy a UNIFIL force in both Tyre and Sidon. To this, the spokesman of the Israeli delegation said: This is a first, agreed on point of departure which should be developed. Prior to this, the head of the Israeli delegation, Brigadier General Gilbo'a, rejected the initial Lebanese position that the UNIFIL force only be deployed along the international border. He said that such a deployment would not stop terrorist activity from southern Lebanon.

Gilbo'a Explains Stand

TA291309 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] The talks in Al-Naqurah appeared to be deadlocked this morning. This is the impression received by our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal in a talk he conducted with Brigadier General 'Amos Gilbo'a, the head of the Israeli delegation to the talks:

[Begin recording] [Tal] This morning you rejected the Lebanese proposal at the beginning of the week to deploy UNIFIL along the southern line. Why?

[Gilbo'a] I explained to the Lebanese in detail the reason why we have rejected their proposal. The main reason — and I gave them several — was that past experience teaches us that if we want to prevent the infiltration and entrenchement of terrorists in the region, we should not deploy forces in a narrow strip along the border, but rather deep inside the territory or, in other words, further north. If we want to prevent the establishment of a terrorist infrastructure — bases, logistic alignment, headquarters — and also infiltration, we must have strong deployment in the north.

[Tal] The Lebanese claim that according to this argument, all the agreements achieved to date must be changed, and new UN Security Council resolutions must be reached which would allow such a deployment in the north.

[Gilbo'a] Exactly. We are here precisely to conclude these things with them and there will be new resolutions based on these conclusions. This is precisely why we are in Al-Naqurah.

[Tal] Have the Lebanese already mentioned the evacuation, or possible evacuation, from Jabal al-Baruk?

[Gilbo'a] A possible evacuation of our forces?

[Tal] Yes.

[Gilbo'a] To date, in an almost persistant way, they have avoided the mention of Jabal al-Baruk.

[Tal] Do you have any explanation for this? Do they perhaps mean to allow the occupation of this area by a non-Lebanese force?

[Gilbo'a] Perhaps, I do not know. Perhaps there is a Syrian angle here, perhaps there is not. It is hard for me to say. One thing is clear to me: They persist in avoiding the issue of Jabal al-Baruk.

[Tal] How do they view the protection that they may be able to give the refugee camps. Is there already a specific mention of this issue?

[Gilbo'a] To my regret, today I very clearly rejected the Lebanese plan. However, I emphasized to them that we see some positive elements: the first is the deployment of UNIFIL in Tyre, according to their plan. The second is their willingness which, in fact, has not found expression in their plan — however they expressed clear willingness in the last session — to deploy UNIFIL in Sidon. I told them that we see progress in these points, that we view this positively, and proposed that we reach an agreement on these issues. Perhaps it will constitute a first step. To my regret, in the answer they gave me they did not even mention these points. [end recording]

Rabin Briefs Former U.S. Officials on Security

TA291737 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1615 GMT 29 Nov 84

["Defense Ministry's Announcement" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 29 Nov (ITIM) — "Israel wants to reach security arrangements in Lebanon that will enable the IDF to withdraw," Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stated today during a meeting in his office with the U.S. secretary of defense in President Nixon's administration, James Schlesinger; former Assistant Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger; and former U.S. Ambassador Sol Linowitz.

The defense minister added that the number of terrorist attacks launched from Jordanian territory has increased recently.

The three former U.S. Administration officials came to Israel to attend a symposium on Israeli-U.S. relations hosted by Haifa University. The meeting was attended by Defense Ministry Director General Menahem Meron, IDF Chief of Intelligence Major General Ehud Baraq, Haifa University Rector Efrayim 'Evron, and U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis.

Shamir Hosts Officials

TA291322 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpt] At noon Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir hosted three former members of the U.S. Administration: Sol Linowitz, former special ambassador to the autonomy talks in the Carter administration; James Schlesinger, former secretary of defense; and Lawrence Eagleburger, former assistant secretary of state. The three came to listen to the foreign minister talk about the problems of the area — more to listen than to speak. Our

correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports on the meeting from the Foreign Ministry;

At the beginning of his briefing, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir claimed there is not, for the moment, any room for new initiatives in the political sphere in our area, because it does not seem that such intiatives would succeed at present. If the United States does indeed succeed in achieving a lengthy period of calm, a different situation will develop in the future.

On the deliberations of the PNC that have been concluded in Amman, Yitzhaq Shamir told his guests that the rapprochement between King Husayn and 'Arafat is not desirable. Yitzhaq Shamir quoted Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] from his speech to the PNC, saying that the PLO's main interest, now that it has lost its territorial base in Lebanon, is to find an Arab country to serve as a base for terrorist activity against Israel. Husayn, Yitzhaq Shamir said, does not want this, but his rapprochement with 'Arafat carries dangers which Israel hopes the king is aware of.

On Egyptian-Israeli relations, Yitzhaq Shamir said the United States should explain to the Egyptians the importance it attaches to the rapprochement between these two countries; Egypt is getting out of its commitment to normalize the relations and return the ambassador.

On Syria, the foreign minister said that there is no difference in that country's extremism, and there are no signs of Syrian willingness to pressure Lebanon to find a solution to the crisis there.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Invited To Visit

TA291038 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 29 Nov 84 p 5

[Report from Washington by 'Oded Granot]

[Text] Me'ir Rosenne, Israel's ambassador to Washington, yesterday invited Iraqi Foreign Affairs Minister Tariq 'Aziz to visit Israel in order to convince himself that Israel has no intention of taking over most of the Arab world.

The ambassador announced the invitation on behalf of the Israeli Government after 'Aziz, during his U.S. visit, claimed that Israel's official map extends to the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers in Iraq.

Peres on Al-Naqurah Talks, Tabah, Reagan

TA291637 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1430 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Tel Aviv, 29 Nov (ITIM) — Prime Minister Shim'on Peres today said that he does not expect the PLO to change its attitude toward peace, but he certainly considers King Husayn a partner for a partial or full, overt or covert dialogue. He stressed, however, that the trip by Knesset Member [MK] Darawshah proved that the Jordanians will not issue "a visa for peace."

Mr Peres spoke at the traditional annual lunch with the Council of Newspaper Editors to celebrate the 29 November UN partition vote anniversary at Bet Sokolov Hall in Tel Aviv. Responding to questions, Mr Peres reacted to Syrian President al-Asad's statement by saying that security in northern Israel and measures guaranteeing this security in southern Lebanon are not conditional on Syria's approval. He also said that the dialogue in preparation for his meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak is continuing.

Referring to the PNC meeting in Amman, Mr Peres said that the Council's meeting was more a psychological event than a political one. All its participants emerged satisfied but no actual decisions were made. Husayn asked the PLO if it is ready for peace negotiations based on UN resolution 242 and did not receive an answer. The Council was in fact split, despite its decision not to split up. 'Arafat maneuvered to gain support, and in the West Bank questions were raised but no answers were received. One cannot point to any decision that changes the situation.

"I do not expect the PLO to change its attitude toward peace. The very existence of the PLO is based on terrorism and on not coming to terms with the existence of Israel. All attempts to characterize the organization otherwise were proved wrong in the past and will prove to be wrong in the future," Mr Peres said. In this context, he added that it is "a vain" effort, resembling an attempt to turn a tiger into a cat by petting it.

"Kreisky," the prime minister said, "tried to convince us that the PLO will change. I told Kreisky: You will change your stands before the PLO does, and that is what happened."

"The PLO has not changed its position and Jordan has not changed its position, and we have to act on the basis of these known positions," he said, stressing that the question of what we will do if the PLO changes its position is purely theoretical.

On MK Darawshah, he said that facts are stronger than imagination. "Darawshah wanted to make peace but got only as far as Cyprus. What has come of it? My request for his return was not sufficient without Jordan's refusal. The Jordanians would not issue a visa for peace. The PLO exploited the trip for propoganda purposes. Even if Darawshah had attended the PNC meeting, he would have heard the same decisions," he said.

He remarked, however, that each Alignment MK who was elected on the party's platform, must be committed to party discipline.

Referring to Jordan, the prime minister said that he continues to consider King Husayn a "potential partner for a far-reaching or gradual solution affecting relations." There was such a successful dialogue in the past; therefore, we should not fear that if we offer peace, we will weaken. Such a proposal only shows our real desire for peace, and we do not propose peace to anyone who is not ready for it. The problem is not another plan, but a partner for negotiations, he said.

In this context, he denied a report that a proposal for a partial arrangement with Jordan was reached in Jericho in a meeting between Labor Party Secretary General 'Uzi Bar'am and Romanian President Ceausescu. "This has not entered my mind nor

Bar'am's nor Ceausescu's; the walls of Jericho remain intact," he said.

Reacting to remarks made by the Iraqi deputy prime minister that his country does not oppose negotiations between Israel and its neighboring countries, Peres said that politically speaking this is a change in Iraq's position, which from the outset has been to deny Israel's existence. From the military viewpoint, however, this is of no consequence. Nobody can guarantee that Iraq will not send troops if a war against Israel breaks out. As a result of its war against Iran, Iraq now has the largest army of all Arab countries, and it has purchased large amounts of weapons.

He stressed, however, that he considers the resumption of ties between Iraq and the United States a positive development. It proves that Iraq is not interested in relying on its pro-Soviet orientation only. It means a certain achievement for U.S. foreign policy. Israel has not proposed that the United States maintain relations only with Israel in our area, he said.

Responding to a question, he said that he does not know what President Reagan meant when he spoke of additional Arab countries that would be ready to negotiate with Israel. "I proposed to President Mubarak that we meet on the Israeli-Egyptian border. He said that, in principle, we should meet, but the meeting should be prepared in advance to ensure positive results. We are now involved in a dialogue to prepare for such a meeting," he said.

He added that they are seeking a suitable solution to the Tabah question; the agreement with Egypt provides for a three-stage process to settle differences: negotiations, conciliation, and arbitration. The Egyptians claim that the negotiations stage is over, but this is not Israel's opinion.

Prime Minister Peres also responded to other political quesitons:

On the Al-Naqurah talks: As long as there are ongoing negotiations, the government will not make statements on other options, such as a unilateral withdrawal, so as not to undermine the negotiations in advance.

On the statement made by Syrian President al-Asad: Israel does not have to ask for Al-Asad's permission to "dream of security." Israel will not make concessions on security for its northern border, even if it must take the necessary measures in southern Lebanon. We do not demand Al-Asad's guarantee for security in the north or his permission for our deployment in southern Lebanon, just as he does not ask for such permission for deployment in eastern Lebanon. Syria is the conquering power outside southern Lebanon, and it does not even hint at any willingness to withdraw or to recognize the Syrian-Lebanese border. Syria has created a series of threats on Lebanese soil which has nothing to do with Lebanon's needs or Syria's defense needs.

On Peres' upcoming visit to Paris: I attach great importance to tightening the special fabric of relations between Israel and France. President Mitterrand has taken special positions on European initiatives and has not agreed to the Venice Declaration. France has influence and ties in the Middle East, and we should strengthen our ties in science, technology, economy, and culture.

On Israeli-Spanish relations: I expected relations would be established after the government was formed, but Spain is waiting until it joins the EEC in another 2 or 3 months. I believe that it should not be linked to their joining the EEC. We demand no discrimination against us in the EEC, because preferential treatment for Spain and Portugal in the EEC might be fatal for the Israeli economy.

Answering questions on economic matters, the prime minister said that if it is necessary to curb the increasing subsidies, the government will appeal to its partners in the package deal to persuade them to agree to this. The final goal is to curb inflation. The package deal has proved to be more successful than expected, and the public is treating economic problems seriously.

He said that in all probability the wage and price freeze will be abandoned gradually and not all at once, provided we attain good results.

The wage and price freeze was implemented gradually as well, as opposed to all at once. If these measures fail, it would be impossible to take additional measures.

The prime minister rejected the idea that his interest in economic affairs undermines the authority of the finance minister. "I made it clear to the finance minister that prior to any measure, he must hold consultations, and if he wants my intervention, he should come to me. I usually do not intervene unless I am asked to do so. The finance minister cannot do his job without backing from the prime minister."

He said he believes that the economic situation is the worst since the state was founded; however, there are not just dangers, but there are good prospects as well, and "if we take the right measures, we will emerge stronger."

He said he believes that there is a chance that wages will increase in real terms following the package deal. The public supports the package deal, and the Histadrut secretary general took the right step when he agreed to the deal.

Yitzhaq Shamir Questions Arab 'Intention'

TA290937 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 9 Nov 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir appeared in Jerusalem last night before a Herut branch and talked about the deliberations of the PNC.

[Begin Shamir recording] When Arab statesmen and when Arab terrorist leaders talk about peace and about land in return for peace, this is their intention, this is their aim: inch by inch. True, there is a certain amount of progress in this area. Seventeen years ago there were those who thought that Palestine [as heard] could be conquered with one sharp blow, with one military campaign, with one war. Those dreams have been given up, but the goal has not been forgotten and it is good that during such a

period — when people are talking about some sort of crystallization of a moderate Arab bloc in the Middle East, a bloc which is made up of countries and into which someone is already rushing to incorporate the PLO — it is good that at such a time there is a national unity government in Israel. [end recording]

Mutual Proposals on Tabah Solution Rejected

TA291458 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1451 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Egypt has rejected the Israeli proposal to hold further negotiations on the stationing of an MFO unit in Beersheba and Isma'ilia and insists that deliberations on this issue be held under the aegis of MFO headquarters in Rome. Israel has rejected the Egyptian position and both countries are accusing each other of dragging its feet. The Egyptian charge d'affaires in Tel Aviv, Muhammad Basyuni, has left for consultations in Cairo.

Differences Reported on Tabah Reaction

TA291601 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel — live]

[Text] Is this a procedural dispute or are the Egyptians really not interested in beginning to thaw bilateral relations? We heard differing interpretations in Jerusalem today, in the wake of the Egyptian refusal to hold negotiations in Beersheba and Isma'ilia on stationing the MFO in Tabah. People in the prime minister's office say this is merely a technical matter which will be resolved when the Egyptian special envoy arrives in Israel. No one, however, knows when he will arrive. Foreign Ministry officials believe the Egyptians are using Tabah as an excuse because they do not want to dispel the chill in their relations with Israel.

Two years ago it was Israel that proposed stationing the MFO in the disputed area in Tabah. The Egyptians were not thrilled. In the annual meeting of the Joint Military Committee held in Rome several weeks ago, the Egyptians raised this as their own proposal. Contrary to Israel, however, the Egyptians not only want the MFO to stay in the area but also to actually control it and carry out police duties.

In response, Israel suggested direct negotiations in Beersheba and Isma'ilia to deal with this question. Cairo did not rush to respond. Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche conferred with Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni in Jerusalem this week. In Cairo, the Israeli minister plenipotentiary, David Sultan, conferred with Ambassador al-'Arabi of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry.

In both these meetings, the Israeli side heard Egypt's absolute refusal to hold bilateral talks in Egypt and in Israel. The Egyptians want the deliberations to be held under the aegis and with the participation of MFO Headquarters in Rome. They accuse Israel of dragging its feet. In response, Kimche told Basyuni that the Egyptians are the ones who have been causing the delay. In the talks held in Cairo and Jerusalem, the Egyptians also said that the question of final sovereignty over the disputed zone should be submitted to arbitration. Egypt sees no room for further negotiations with Israel on the issue of sovereignty.

It should be pointed out that the last Egyptian refusal joins other proposals rejected by the Egyptians in the last few months, such as joint Israeli-Egyptian management of the Aviya Sonesta Hotel, the division of Tabah between the two countries, and other similar compromise proposals. It is hard to tell what the immediate significance of this refusal will be but one thing is clear: The Egyptians are not thrilled by Israel's enthusiasm to warm up the so-called cold peace. For the time being, they prefer to promote their resurging relations with Arab countries. And, in this context, we heard this afternoon about King Husayn's upcoming visit to Cairo.

Another point is clear: The Enthusiasm regarding possible negotiations over Tabah is not shared by the entire Israeli political establishment. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, to cite one, today told a group of visitors from the United States that it would be better not to have any new initiatives on the Middle East in the near future but rather maintain the political equilibrium. Herein may lies the reason for the different interpretations we quoted at the beginning of this report.

Egypt: Basyuni on 'Vacation'

TA291844 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] The Egyptian Embassy spokesman in Israel has denied reports that Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni left for Egypt for political reasons. The spokesman told our reporter Arye Gus that Basyuni took a short vacation connected with family affairs and will return to Israel tonight or tomorrow.

'Secret Messages' to Egypt to Prepare Summit

TA300948 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 30 Nov 84 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] Israel has in the last few days passed secret messages to Egypt, from which it will finally be possible to determine whether the planned summit meeting between the prime minister and President Mubarak will be realized in the near future.

The messages — which are in the form of questions which Egypt is asked to answer — were transmitted by the Egyptian charge d'affaires, Muhammad Basyuni, who left two days ago for a 1-day visit to Cairo, and through Israeli Ambassador Moshe Sason, who is scheduled to return to Cairo following a 10-day visit in Israel. Ambassador Sason met with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Foreign Affairs Minister Yitzhaq Shamir yesterday and heard from them the final clarifications which he is to convey to President Mubarak.

Top sources have told the *DAVAR* correspondent that the questions which Israel wants clearly answered relate mainly to Tabah. Most of them relate to the question whether — in the event that it is agreed to transfer the dispute to conciliation or arbitration as stipulated in the peace agreement — Egypt would improve its

trade, culture, and tourism relations with Israel, as stipulated in the normalization agreements annexed to the peace agreement. According to the sources, it will be possible to determine from Egypt's answers whether it is using the Tabah dispute as an excuse to prevent a thaw in bilateral relations, or whether this is really the reason preventing normalization.

Other clarifications asked for by Israel deal with the remaining 15 controversial points relating to the precise border between the two countries, and especially with the dispute over the 2 square km in the area of Nizzana.

The sources added that if positive answers are received from Cairo, it will then be possible to set the date for the summit meeting between Shim'on Peres and President Mubarak. In this meeting the two will announce their decision on the mechanism (conciliation or arbitration) which will resolve the Tabah dispute. Prime Minister Shim'on Peres yesterday said that preparations for the summit meeting are continuing, to ensure that it bears positive results.

"We are holding talks with the Egyptians in various ways in order to prepare a background for the meeting which will guarantee success," the prime minister emphasized.

Shamir Sends Chernenko Message On Emigration
TA300734 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Jerusalem will transmit a message to Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko asking the Soviet leader to allow increased emigration of Soviet Jewry. The message also says that Jerusalem is interested in improving its relations with Moscow. Jewish billionaire Armand Hammer will meet the Soviet leader next week and present him with this message. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports:

[Begin recording] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met with Armand Hammer during his recent visit to Los Angeles. Hammer expressed willingness to aid Israel in the diplomatic as well as the economic spheres. This week Dr Hammer is scheduled to meet with President Chernenko in Moscow. Shamir asked him to present the Soviet leader with a message which says that Israel has no interest in any kind of confrontation with the Soviet Union, and that all of Israel's struggles with the USSR are linked to its desire to bring Soviet Jews to Israel.

Jerusalem is interested in improving the ties with Moscow, and it has no basic hostile policy toward the Soviet Union. Hammer promised to transfer the message and to work toward opening the gates of emigration. In his assessment, an improvement on this issue can be expected.

Following the election of president Reagan, Hammer expects a revival of detente between the United States and the Soviet Union, followed by an increase in Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union. [end recording]

Jordan Warned About Terrorist Attacks
TA300915 Tel Aviv 'Al HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 30 Nov 84 p 3

[Report by Alex Fishman]

[Text] According to Israel, the presence in Jordan of the head of the PLO military wing, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], and the flow of terrorists from exile to Amman in the wake of the PNC meeting are turning Jordan into a main terrorist base.

Israel is warning Jordan to increase alertness and do more to stop terrorist activity against Israel from its territory.

During the period from last May to November, there have been four cases of Katyushas being fired at Israeli territory from Jordan. One of the assumptions is that these actions are being carried out by terrorists arriving from Syrian territory and with Syrian encouragement, with the goal of sabotaging the Israeli-Jordanian dialogue in everything involving the prevention of terrorist activity from Jordanian territory. It will be noted that for several months the Jordanians have been reinforcing their forces along the Syrian-Jordanian border, with the goal of preventing terrorists from infiltrating into Jordanian territory from the Syrian border with the aim of undermining the Jordanian regime and working against Israel from Jordanian territory.

Paper Notes Approval of U.S.-Iraqi Relations
TA291013 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 29 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] Jerusalem views with favor the renewal of diplomatic ties between the United States and Iraq, and sees the Washington announcement by the Iraqi foreign minister — according to which his country does not reject talks between Israel and any Arab country — as a positive expression which should be welcomed.

Paris Mayor to Visit, Encourage Tourism
TA290747 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac will visit Israel within a few days to work out a campaign together with Teddy Kollek to encourage tourism from his country to Israel. This has been agreed between Chirac and Minister of Tourism Avraham Sharir, who is visiting Paris. Our correspondent Yosi Qoren reports that the campaign, which will involve the participation of Air France, will be carried out simultaneously in North America as well and will focus on the cities of Jerusalem and Paris.

MK Darawshah Returns, Comments on Trip
TA291843 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] The Darawshah affair has ended. Knesset Member Darawshah returned to Israel this evening and said that he will confer with Labor Party leaders and explain to them why he left

without asking for the approval of the party's institutions. He said that if he had received a visa from Jordan, he would not have hesitated to continue his mission. He said that he responded to the Labor Party leaders' request to return to Israel only after it was clear to him that he had no chance of making a speech to the PNC.

Shemtov Criticizes Response to Husayn Speech

TA292039 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2020 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv, 29 Nov (ITIM) — "We did not agree with everything King Husayn said but some of his formulations could enable the resumption of the political process. In contrast, Israel gave a hesitant reply which showed that the government is not ready for political open-mindedness," MAPAM Secretary General Victor Shemtov stated this evening at the beginning of the MAPAM Center session at the Tzavta Theater in Tel Aviv.

Shemtov emphasized that Prime Minister Shim'on Peres could not initiate a political move in the wake of Husayn's declaration because this would have run counter to the basic political guidelines of the government which were formulated according to the Likud's wishes.

Shemtov pointed out that the assessment that the national unity government would be a fallacy rather than a panacea has been proven right. He added that in the political sphere, this is a government of national paralysis.

To illustrate his remarks, the MAPAM secretary general noted that important changes have occurred in the region such as the rapprochement between Jordan and Egypt, the resumption of relations between Iraq and the United States, the announcement made by the Iraqi Government that it would not object to an Arab country holding negotiations with Israel, and the PNC meeting held in Amman.

Shemtov added that MAPAM has been preparing itself for a tough and courageous struggle as part of the opposition, in line with its "feeling of national responsibility."

Likud Threatens To Leave Government 30 Nov

TA291744 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1720 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpt] The Likud will cause a government crisis as soon as tomorrow if SHAS' demand for the religious affairs portfolio is not met. A few minutes ago, the Herut Secretariat decided to call on the Likud faction to leave the coalition immediately if the promise to SHAS is not kept. The first details on this are brought by our correspondent Amnon Nadav:

If the Likud's determination to stand by SHAS was not clear, the Herut Secretariat's decision clearly expresses the threat posed to the coalition. A short while ago Herut gave an unequivocal answer, not only in support of the demands by SHAS, but a threat to leave the coalition tomorrow, if the promise made to SHAS according to the coalition agreement is not kept.

A few minutes ago the Herut Secretariat concluded a meeting in which harsh and unrelenting statements were made in favor of leaving the coalition. The Secretariat strengthened the decision by the Likud ministers this week to demand that the Cabinet make a clear decision tomorrow on the distribution of the interior and religious affairs portfolios between the National Religious Party and SHAS. The Herut Secretariat called on the Likud faction to leave the coalition immediately if this is not implemented tomorrow. As noted, all Secretariat members were unanimous in their opinion that an end must be put to the affair, which they view as a humiliation of the Likud.

Peres Rejects Ultimatum

TA291822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] The Herut Secretariat this evening decided to immediately leave the coalition if the promise to SHAS, to give it the religious affairs portfolio, is not kept. Prior to this, SHAS rejected a compromise proposal worked out by Minister Moshe Shahal. The prime minister said that he is not sure that a solution to the problem will be found tomorrow, although some progress has been made. He stressed, however, that a government cannot act according to an ultimatum and all parties involved must be patient, so that the National Religious Party will continue to participate in the government and SHAS will get what it deserves. I do not intend to violate the status quo in religious affairs, Peres said.

'Progress' Made

TA300902 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0851 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Text] It appears as though the crisis with SHAS has been resolved. Rabbi Yitzhaq Peretz, who left the Cabinet session a short time ago, said that he will apparently not resign from the government today. According to him, there is some progress which opens the way for solving the portfolio crisis. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that before the Cabinet session, Ministers Shahal and Corfu met for a private talk in an attempt to consolidate a proposal which would be acceptable to both SHAS and the National Religious Party. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that according to this compromise proposal, Rabbi Peretz will be interior minister and Burg will be religious affairs minister. It appears that this proposal will be raised for government approval today.

Inner Cabinet Idea Reportedly 'Removed'

TA291045 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Nov 84 p 1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] The approval of the establishment of an inner cabinet has lately been removed from the agenda of the government. After several weeks in which the issue appeared on the agenda but was postponed for various reasons, it is no longer on the agenda submitted to the ministers before government sessions. The HA'ARETZ correspondent has learned from a top Alignment

minister that due to the widespread resistance among Labor and Likud ministers, it has been decided to shelve the cabinet regulations concerning the inner cabinet, and to actually transform it into a Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs.

The coalition agreement has awarded extremely wide authorities to the cabinet, and in fact according to the agreement any subject can be brought before the 10 ministers comprising it. The regulations have in fact expropriated from the government wide authority and even the right to appeal the decisions of the cabinet. Ministers Gur and Pat publicly announced that they will oppose the Cabinet regulations.

Gaza Commander Sums Up Security Situation

TA291034 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Nov 84 p 3

[Report by Rafi Ga'on]

[Text] Last year several attempts were made to transfer weapons from the Egyptian border to the Gaza Strip, but it appears that most of them have been foiled. This was said by Colonel Dubi, commander of the Gaza sector, in an interview on IDF Radio.

He added that this is corroborated by the fact that there are almost no standard weapons in the Gaza Strip, but rather improvised ones manufactured by those who use them.

Another phenomenon in the security sphere in the Strip is the throwing of hand grenades. As he puts it: "We have returned to the phenomenon of hand grenades," in addition to the explosive charges, and special attention is given to this issue.

Another problem is the assassination attempts on Gaza Strip dignitaries. During the last 10 weeks there have been comparable attempts against four dignitaries, and in two cases the attempts succeeded (the mayor of Rafah and a lecturer at the Islamic College).

Curfew Imposed on Al-Duhayshah 30 Nov

TA300614 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Text] The security forces this morning imposed a curfew on the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp near Bethlehem, following incidents in which Molotov cocktails were thrown at Israeli vehicles last night. There were no injuries and no damage was done. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that a Molotov cocktail was also thrown last night at an Israeli vehicle near the Qalandiyah refugee camp north of Jerusalem.

Jerusalem 'Fears' Renewal of Reagan Initiative

TA300905 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 30 Nov 84 p 11

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] A senior Jerusalem political source recently sent an unambiguous message to Washington: If you want to overthrow the Israeli Government, all you have to do is renew President Reagan's initiative. The impression in Jerusalem is that the U.S. secretary of state clearly understands the Israeli message. Shultz, senior political sources believe, will not repeat Rogers' mistake.

There is a political deadlock in the Foreign Ministry. Jerusalem fears a U.S. peace initiative. The minister's [as published] political line is being honored: The unity government's sole tasks are dealing with the economy and Lebanon. If the united States renews the Reagan initiative, the only result will be the fall of the national unity government.

Defense Budget 'Slashed' by $100 million

TA301727 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Text] The cuts in the state budget decided upon today include $100 million which will be slashed from the defense budget. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that a dispute has now erupted between the Defense and Finance Ministries about next year's total budget. The defense minister argues that the total budget is $2.93 billion while the Treasury claims that the total budget amounts to $2.6 billion. Due to these differences, the defense minister abstained in the vote on the budget cuts.

In contrast, several ministers who supported the cut in the defense budget expressed themselves against adversely affecting the IDF in the course of the debate. Our military correspondent points out that in view of the fact that the sum of the total budget is now unclear, it is impossible to complete the IDF's working program for next year.

Qeysar Favors Continuation of Package Deal

TA300617 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Text] Histadrut Secretary General Yisra'el Qeysar says he has told Prime Minister Peres that the trade union federation is prepared right away to agree to a further extension of the 3-month economic package deal, provided that no changes will be made in the agreement. He said that the freeze had already proved itself and everything should be done to make sure that the sort of economic anarchy that existed before, with everyone doing what they wanted, would not return. The Histadrut secretary general was speaking at a meeting in Ashqelon.

ALGERIA

Reportage on Visit of Italian Prime Minister

Bendjedid Receives Craxi

LD291419 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Brother President Chadli Bendjedid, head of state and National Liberation Front [FLN] secretary general, received this morning at the Presidency Mr Bettino Craxi, the Italian prime minister.

The talks which took place between the brother president and the Italian guest and covered bilateral cooperation and the international issues of joint interest, were attended by Brothers Abdelhamid Ibrahimi, candidate member of the Political Bureau and prime minister; Abdelaziz Khellef, the minister of trade; Noureddine Harbi, deputy minister in charge of cooperation; and Noureddine Benchiekh, the Algerian ambassador to Rome. From the Italian side they were attended by Giulio Andreotti, the minister of foreign affairs.

The Algerian-Italian political talks were resumed this morning and presided over by Brother Abdelhamid Ibrahimi and Mr Bettino Craxi with the attendence of the members of the two delegations.

Craxi-Bendjedid Talks

AU292014 Rome ANSA in English 1950 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Algiers, November 29 — Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi met Algerian head-of-state Chadli Bendjedid here today and once more, as in his recent visits to Rizadh and Cairo, was urged to move for a more active European role in seeking a settlement to the Middle Eastern crisis.

Meeting with reporters with Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti later, he said the Algerian leader, like other Arab leaders, would like to see the European Ten, of whom Italy will be the duty chairman for the next six-month period, placing heavier direct or indirect pressure on the U.S. to shift the situation out of the present immobility.

"If it now seems like a synonym of calm", Craxi noted, "in the long run, it may turn out to be the cause of graver events".

Craxi said he thought the EC's upcoming summit in Dublin would say nothing about the Middle East, since its attention will be taken up by Spanish and Portuguese membership and related problems.

Andreotti agreed, also saying that the time is not yet ripe for a new European intiative on the Middle East. He apparently hopes the conditions may come to fruition when Italy is duty chairman from January to June. In this prospect, Craxi wants to hear the Israeli view too, and for this reason the [word indistinct] from Tel Aviv have been invited to Rome.

According to Craxi, his talk with Bendjedid revealed Algerian support for the new course in the Palestine Liberation Organization's affairs after the Amman meeting of the Palestinian National Council. He said he would need to read the final resolutions, but the information available here indicates the PLO has moved towards negotiations. "I think the results of the council should also be seen very favourably by the United States, too", said the Italian premier.

Craxi did not rule out a meeting with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat in Tunis next week. He still has no firm appointment, but Craxi said he would have no difficulty in meeting the PLO leader.

Craxi's visit also confirmed the healthy state of bilateral relations with many convergent interests — the extension of the Italo [words indistinct] to Yugoslavia and Greece, Italian oil and other forms of prospection in the Algerian subsoil, triangular cooperation with third countries, and military supplies, to help offset the big surplus created by Algeria's gas sales to Italy.

Andreotti-Brahimi Talks

LD291932 Rome Domestic Service in Italian 2300 GMT 28 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Today was the first day of Prime Minister Craxi's and Foreign Minister Andreotti's visit in Algeria. Here is a report by our correspondent Rodolfo Fiorilla in Algiers:

[Fiorilla] The development of bilateral relations and the situation in the Middle East were the topics tackled by Craxi and Brahimi. The Algerian prime minister said that he is satisfied with this first visit by a head of the Italian state since Algeria's independence. Foreign Minister Andreotti, who is accompanying Craxi, met with his counterpart, Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi. Tomorrow the meetings will be extended to the two delegations. The best way to increase economic relations between the two countries will be sought.

Algerian-Italian relations were termed by Prime Minister Brahimi as a model in terms of North-South relations. Algeria, Brahimi added, which is working at diversifying its preferences in the framework of West Europe, accords Italy a privileged position. The Algerian prime minister defined as important Italy's action in the Mediterranean. As for the Middle East, Craxi reaffirmed Italy's support for the continuous search of a negotiated solution of the crisis which might shield the region from the indirect repercussions of the East-West conflict.

Italian Prime Minister Departs

LD291947 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Italian Prime Minister Mr Bettino Craxi left Algiers tonight for his country following a 2-day official visit to our country. He was seen off by Abdelhamid Brahimi, candidate member of the Political Bureau and prime minister, and other members of the government.

Nicaraguan Trade Minister Arrives in Algiers

PM291411 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 26 Nov 84 p 3

[APS report: "Nicaraguan Foreign Trade Minister Arrives in Algiers"]

[Text] Algiers — Nicaraguan Foreign Trade Minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca arrived in Algiers yesterday afternoon. A special envoy of Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, from whom he conveyed a message for President Chadli Benjedid, the Nicaraguan foreign trade minister was met at Houari Boumediene International Airport by FLN Party Central Committee member and Trade Minister Abdelaziz Khellaf and the Nicaraguan ambassador in Algiers.

On his arrival in Algiers Alejandro Martinez Cuenca made a brief statement in which he said that the recent elections held in Nicaragua demonstrated once again the popular and democratic nature of the Sandinista revolution. "We have come here to seek the Algerian people's solidarity," the Nicaraguan minister said, adding, "Now more than ever we need the aid of the international community at a time when we are facing the threat of an intervention by the Reagan government, which has failed to understand our country's desire for peace and our people's determination to defend their freedom at any price."

LIBYA

Mubarak Accused of Preparing 'Aggression'

LD291446 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] The head of the Egyptian regime, Husni Mubarak, met yesterday in an airbase, not named by MENA, with a group of Air Force pilots and officers. MENA said that this meeting lasted 2 hours.

It is known that on 24 November, the head of the Egyptian regime, on the orders of Washington, had unexpected consultations with the Egyptian minister of defense and with senior Egyptian Army commanders. These consultations lasted 3 hours, and Major General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, the chief of the operations, and the commanders of the other Egyptian forces also participated in them.

These consultations were preceded by the Egyptian regime putting the Egyptian forces on full alert on the Libyan border and was followed by intensive flights by Egyptian aircraft.

There is no doubt that this provocative Egyptian military moves is a sure sign that preparations are already underway to carry out an aggression against the Jamahiriyah, and this is premeditated.

Jallud on Arab Solidarity To Counter U.S. Threat

LD300302 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 29 Nov (JANA) — Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, this evening attended the grand pan-Arab festivities held in Tripoli to mark the International Day of Solidarity With the Palestinian People. Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud gave a speech and began by saying: When the peoples of the world and the Palestinian people are celebrating together in solidarity, we Arabs celebrate because of our pan-Arab belief that the issue is a pan-Arab issue. The immortalization of this day for us has another meaning — our determination to struggle, holding firm the gun and defending our existence and land.

He noted that Reagan's government had declared after his reelection that it had three objectives — the liquidation of communism in the Caribbean, dealing with unrest in North Africa, and the Middle East problem. These are the three objectives set forward by Reagan. But, what did he mean by unrest in North Africa? In Reagan's eyes — reactionary, capitualionist eyes — the source of the trouble is the revolutionary acts that have been carried out by the Fatih Revolution and the Libyan people; that is what he means by North Africa.

Staff Major Jallud noted that in light of this, we the progressive countries, following a meeting in the Jamahiriyah held by Syria, Iran, and the Jamahiriyah, have in recent days begun material preparations. He added that a meeting of either foreign ministers or leaders of the aforementioned countries might be heard. We are calling on Algeria and South Yemen to attend, as the dangers are facing all of us.

He explained that America does not deal with the Libyan people on the basis of their number nor of their capabilities, but deals with them on the basis of their revolutionary beliefs and their revolutionary mottos — America is afraid of the revolutionary committees and of the revolutionary conferences and the new socialism which can spread and undermine the capitalist system and create new circumstances. He stressed that this will not make us back away from our principles even if we are physically destroyed.

Staff Major Jallud said that France should express regret, and after the withdrawal of the French forces and Libya's supporting forces from Chad, it should try to encourage the Chadian factions to come together — the government of national unity and the mutineer Habre — to seek a political solution. We were surprised that France was subjected to internal pressure from America and from the mutineer Habre, he said.

MAURITANIA

Reportage on Arab League Secretary General's Visit

Klibi Arrives in Nouakchott

AB290940 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] The secretary general of the Arab League arrived in Nouakchott yesterday afternoon for an official visit to Mauritania. Mr Chedli Klibi praised the positive role played by our country in the joint Arab action. The Arab League secretary general was met by the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, and all the ambassadors of Arab countries accredited to Nouakchott.

Klibi Departs

LD292353 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi left our country this morning following a short visit, during which he was received by the head of state and chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala. He also had private talks with Lt Col Ahmed Ould Minnih, member of the Military Committee for National Salvation and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

He was seen off at the airport by the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

SUDAN

Ethiopian Rebels Release Foreign Hostages

JN291818 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 29 Nov (SUNA) — State security authorities have handed one Briton, one Australian, and one Finnish woman over to their embassies in Khartoum after they were released by the Tigrai Liberation Front and the Ethiopian Democratic Popular Front. The Sudanese authorities interceded with the two organizations to release two Americans, two Britons, one Australian, and a Finnish woman at the request of their governments. The hostages were detained when the Ethiopian revolutionary forces seized the town of (?Lalibala) on 19 October. The revolutionaries responded to the Sudanese mediation and released two Americans and one Briton inside Ethiopian territory because of their old age. The other three were handed over to the Sudanese authorities on the eastern border yesterday morning.

TUNISIA

Paris: 'Social Unrest', Strikes Continue

LD291545 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Social unrest continues in Tunisia. Following a series of strikes in the transport, metallurgy, and higher education sectors, the entire banking sector, apparently 10,000 employees, are said to have struck today in Tunisia for 24 hours. From Tunisia, our correspondent (Mohamed Medeb):

The UGTT Trade Union, in the majority of these cases, generally denounces the nonapplication by the bosses of agreements signed by the two sides. The bosses (?respond) by pointing out that all agreements of a financial nature must necessarily get the government's approval. Now, the government is saying, and Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali has just affirmed in front of the Chamber of Deputies on the occasion of the budget debates, that there is no question of a salary revision. The questions of price rises and wage increases for 1984 remain in favor of the employees.

Mzali Condemns Strikes

LD291559 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpts] The Chamber of Deputies this morning heard a statement from the Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior Mohamed Mzali, in reply to questions raised by the deputies in respect to the government's policy statement and the economic balance for 1985.

At the beginning of his statement, Mzali thanked the deputies for their welcome and praise for the government's policy in the economic, social, cultural and educational fields. The deputies considered the facts and figures given objectively in the government's statement as a new proof of the government's seriousness and success in overcoming both domestic and external problems forced on it and obliged it to mobilize all possible resources. The country has emerged safely from these external storms, he said, adding: The problems which faced the Chamber of Deputies were connected with the satanic designs intended to influence the morals of the officials and thus make them lose confidence in themselves and hesitate in making decisions and getting excited — particularly as excitement weakens the ability to find solutions. But thanks to our faith in our homeland and our devotion to the public interest, and above all thanks to the trust President Habib Bourguiba has bestowed on the government team, we were able to pay no attention to rumors and not waste time heeding them, but to listened to the solutions submitted to us for the good of the country.

Prime Minister Mzali noted with satisfaction in his statement the deputies' references to the negative aspects of strikes, which have become a means for embarrassing the officials and thus causing them to squander everything so that all concepts and values will collapse. He said that these strikes are taking place against the will of the higher leadership of the trade union organizations. He reminded all the trade unionists who still uphold the spirit of Hachad [a former Tunisian trade union leader] that the national dimension of trade unionism is not to combat the values for the sake of which Hachad and all Tunisians offered sacrifices.

Strikes, he said, are not for social reasons but for political reasons. He added that democracy is a constant gain and victory over the negativeness and selfishness of the past. Social life demands traditions and social contracts based on our respect for each other, and on consultation so that we may establish democratic traditions capable of protecting the sanctity of law and the freedom of the judiciary, and strike at the hands of those who act wrongly while entrenching dialogues among the various parties and meeting the rights of workers and taking into consideration the interests of the capital owner on the grounds that he performs an economic duty. This is the style we envisage for our society.

Mzali then spoke of the economic problems of the country which are largely due to the high dollar, the increase in the interest rates, and the drop in oil revenues due to the drop in world prices. These problems have afflicted all societies, yet the government has succeeded in tackling these problems step by step.

After hearing the statement from Prime Minister Mohammed Mzali, the Tunisian Parliament heard, during its morning ses-

sion, a report prepared jointly by the Political Affairs and Public Legislation Committees on the draft law pertaining to Chapter 32 of the Tunisian citizenship law. It provides that a Tunisian shall have to tender his citizenship in the case of his acceptance to work in a public institution belonging to a foreign country. The chapter gives the person concerned a period of grace of 6 months to abandon that work as of the date of notice given to him to abandon that work by the Tunisian Government. The draft law was then put to the vote. It was approved. Two deputies abstained while a third opposed.

The session was adjourned and the chamber will resume its meetings on Thursday to discuss the state budget for 1985.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR President on Negotiations, OAU Role

LD291426 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] A statement by the SDAR Ministry of Information and Culture said that fierce battles have been continuing since last Tuesday in the Haouza region and the area 25 km between Seleyina and (?Cheblin). The statement added that the Saharan People's Army inflicted heavy losses on the invading Royal Forces. It said that 175 Moroccan soldiers were killed or wounded and 7 positions along the so-called security belt destroyed. This is in addition to the destruction of a considerable number of weapons and military equipment including 7 armored vehicles and 14 transport vehicles and several artillery batteries. The statement said that the series of attacks carried out by the Saharan Army last Wednesday against the city of Dakhla and the Haouza sector resulted in the deaths of 14 members of the Moroccan Royal Forces.

On the other hand, President Mohamed Abdelaziz made a statement to the AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY in which he pointed out that the SDAR's membership in the OAU must facilitate the search for a political solution to the Saharan issue. The Saharan president pointed out that Morocco's withdrawal does not exclude the possibility of finding a peaceful solution that should be implemented. Mohamed Abdelaziz stressed that the SDAR aspires for a peace reached through direct SDAR-Moroccan negotiations. He added that no one can replace either the SDAR or Morocco in the negotiations for a solution to the problem. After explaining that the Arab Maghreb will not be unified so long as the Saharan issue is frozen, Mohamed Abdelaziz pointed out that among the SDAR's preoccupations during the coming stage is joining other international organizations especially the Nonaligned Movement and the UN at the appropriate moment.

Replying to a question regarding whether Morocco's withdrawal from the OAU and the SDAR's membership might cause, according to certain claims, the freezing of the Western Sahara problem, the Saharan president stressed that this is a biased Moroccan claim spread by those preparing a new military adventure against the SDAR and [words indistinct].

Replying to a question about Moroccan claims that a solution could be found to the Western Sahara problem without resorting to direct negotiation [words indistinct] as these negotiations could be directed through the OAU seven-man committee, Mohamed Abdelaziz said the SDAR controls over 70 percent of its national soil, and that its army engages in daily battles with the Moroccan Army. He said: How can we settle this conflict peacefully without those fighting for our cause sitting at the negotiating table with the occupation army.

After stressing that all the disputes would end at the negotiating table, Mohamed Abdelaziz stressed that the Moroccan excuse in the end indicates that it does not want any peaceful settlement to the Saharan problem.

PANA Interviews SDAR President Abdelaziz

EA291747 Dakar PANA in French 1655 GMT 28 Nov 84

[Text] Dakar, 28 Nov (PANA) — In an exclusive interview with PANA, SDAR President Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz has said that the SDAR's recent admission to the OAU should facilitate the search for a political solution to the Western Sahara problem, which is not compromised by Morocco's withdrawal from the pan-African organization.

For the SDAR president, this withdrawal does not hinder the chances for a peaceful settlement of the conflict toward which efforts should be made, although, he remarked, the diplomatic victory won by the Saharan cause may lead to a military reaction from Morocco.

Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz said that the SDAR is committed to peace, but this has to come about through direct negotiations between the SDAR and Morocco. For, he stressed, no one can take the place of the SDAR or Morocco in talks, seeking a solution to the problem.

The SDAR president described the Moroccan interpretation of The Hague International Court of Justice's opinion recognizing the existence of ties of allegiance between Morocco and the Saharan populations as a "flagrant misrepresentation and distortion."

"I do not believe that the opinion of the International Court proved Morocco right, since this judicial body equally stressed the need for self-determination for the Saharan people through a free referendum."

After noting that the Maghreb cannot be united so long as the Western Sahara problem remains suspended, Mr Abdelaziz pointed out that among the SDAR's concerns for the future is its admission, "at the right time" to other international organizations, particularly to the Nonaligned Movement and the United Nations.

Here follows the complete text of the interview:

PANA: Mr President, during the 20th OAU summit just ended in Addis Ababa, the SDAR was admitted for the first time to a summit. What conclusions do you draw from that?

Abdelaziz: The admission of SDAR established its legality and right in implementation of the OAU charter and principles. Our sacrifices and the concessions we made in Tripoli as well as in Addis Ababa to ensure the success of the 19th summit, coupled with Morocco's rejection of the peaceful solution stipulated by Resolution 104, constituted the factors which led the whole of Africa to express increasing solidarity with the SDAR and the Saharan people. That was demonstrated by our inclusion among 49 heads of state who participated in the successful 20th summit, during which the keynote of solidarity was restored. It accordingly became possible for the 20th summit to become a new beginning for the OAU with all the African states resolving to tackle the problems affecting our continent's development.

PANA: Libya deplored the withdrawal of Morocco. Do you believe that there was any Libyan solidarity with Morocco at the expense of the SDAR?

Abdelaziz: During the 20th summit, we did not note any Libyan solidarity with Morocco at the expense of the SDAR. As for the regrets expressed over Morocco's withdrawal and the appeal made for its return to the OAU, these regrets applied not only to Libya but to all African states. Such a return would mean to us a return to legality and would demonstrate Morocco's abandonment of its expansionist policy and its respect for the OAU Charter.

PANA: Many people believe that with the withdrawal of Morocco from the OAU, the chance for a peaceful settlement of the Saharan problem will disappear. What do you think?

Abdelaziz: A political solution to the conflict depends on the existence of a desire to bring it about. When Morocco does show evidence of this desire, we believe that, on the contrary the SDAR's occupation of its seat at the OAU will be an additional factor which should prompt it to undertake negotiations with the SDAR in search of a political solution.

According to our assessment, the fact that the SDAR has taken its seat at the OAU constitutes a factor of the kind to facilitate a solution to the problem within the framework of the continental organization if, however, Morocco so desires.

For our part, more than in the past, since today we are a full member of the OAU, bound by its charter and the principles that underlie this charter, we are committed to a political solution. Our desire and willingness for a peaceful settlement are also stronger, and we are ready to help Morocco emerge from this situation as long as it also has the desire.

PANA: But until then, the armed struggle will continue?

Abdelaziz: Of course.

PANA: After the OAU, what are your future commitments? Do you plan to join the Arab League, the Nonaligned Movement, the United Nations?

Abdelaziz: As an African country and state, the greatest obstacle we have faced has been our admission to the OAU. Now that we are a full member of the OAU and able to exercise our rights, as such we shall examine how we can achieve membership of other organizations. This will be a matter of future reflection and concern; it will be a question of choosing the right time to apply to those organizations, particularly the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement.

PANA: And the Maghreb?

Abdelaziz: The Magreb is another question. It is an African subregional organization like organizations existing in other parts of the continent following OAU recommendations on concerted efforts to promote the human and material resources of African countries. With regard to our North Africa subregion, the realization of such an objective is complicated by the fact of the invasion of the Western Sahara by Morocco and the persistence of its expansionist policy. We believe that this subregional Maghreb entity can neither grow nor achieve unity unless the conflict between the SDAR and Morocco is resolved. We shall, however, continue to deal and cooperate with certain parties, even with all the parties of this Maghreb group, with a view to persuading them to intervene with Morocco, which must put an end to its expansionist policy, so that this group can become an established reality on a sound complementary foundation upon which the subregion's economic, human, and intellectual resources can be assembled.

PANA: According to some observers, the withdrawal of Morocco and the admission of the SDAR in the OAU is going to freeze the Western Sahara problem. They even see a bad service rendered to the SDAR. What do you think about it?

Abdelaziz: This is a Moroccan interpretation, pernicious and mistaken. It comes from those preparing a new military adventure which would constitute an act of aggression not only against the SDAR, but also against northwest African countries and against the whole of Africa. In fact, we are expecting that, for through recent threats uttered by the Moroccan Government, it appears that the Rabat authorities are preparing, in effect, a military adventure as a sign of reaction to the diplomatic victory won by the Saharan cause at the 20th OAU summit.

For all that, such a reaction is in the logic of any colonizer. Whenever a colonized people gains a victory and progress in their liberation struggle, the colonizer steps up the crisis. Each time the occupation is denounced and the isolation of the occupier grows, the latter resorts to the policy of military adventure to try to impose a fait accompli.

It is obvious, moreover, that an illegal military adventure in no way signifies the strength of the Moroccan Government, but illustrates rather its weakness in the face of the problems brought about by war and by its increasing isolation at the African as well as the international level.

PANA: There is a Moroccan thesis by which the process for a political solution of the Western Sahara problem can be undertaken without necessarily being obliged to resort to direct negotiations with the Polisario Front and that such negotiations could be undertaken through the mediation of the OAU implementation committee. What is your position on that?

Abdelaziz: It should be noted here that the OAU has been dealing with the Saharan problem since 1976 in the framework of conferences at summit level and actions undertaken by committees made up of heads of state to seek a solution.

It was after long study and exploration of ways and means that it produced Resolution 104 at the 19th OAU summit in June 1983, which Africa and the whole international community consider the only way to solve the conflict in a peaceful way, if the will for this exists, and this is what Morocco refuses.

The question which arises is the following: We have been in a state of war for 11 years; the SDAR controls more than 70 percent of the national territory; its army wages daily battle with the Moroccan Army; how can one solve the conflict through peaceful means without our sitting, as combatants of our cause, around the negotiating table with the occupying army?

History is full of similar examples. All previous conflicts ended around the negotiating table. The Algerian liberation war ended through direct negotiations between the Algerian and French sides. The epilogue to the Vietnam war also came after 4 years of negotiations. How do you expect that in our case, the problem can be solved without direct negotiations?

No one can take the place of the SDAR or the Kingdom of Morocco in talks seeking a negotiated settlement to the conflict. It is absolutely necessary to sit face to face and seriously seek conditions and means to acheive peace.

The pretext which Morocco puts forward unfortunately denotes an absence of desire to solve the problem peacefully.

PANA: What is your attitude toward the findings of the Hague International Court of Justice recognizing ties of allegiance between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Saharan people?

Abdelaziz: I do not think that the Hague Court defined this point to such an extent. This international judicial body equally stressed the need of the Saharan people for self-determination through a free referendum. The Moroccan interpretation of The Hague Courts' findings is a misinterpretation and a flagrant distortion. In any case, today the problem is one which exists between two OAU members and its solution now depends on the political will of the parties in dispute. As for us, we recall that the OAU implementing committee presented a report adopted unanimously by the 20th summit. We therefore believe that when the Moroccan side decides to adopt a positive attitude, this document will become the basis of the search for a political solution.

Polisario Claims 72 Moroccans Killed in Clashes

LD281739 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Nov 84

[Text] The Polisario Front announced in a communique that 72 Moroccan soldiers have died in the latest clashes with separatist guerrillas in the Sahara. We have a report on this just in, which Daniel Peral will now read: The Polisario Front says it has destroyed part of the defensive wall set up by Morocco in the Western Sahara, near the town of Haouza. The separatist movement also said its military units are simultaneously attacking the defensive wall set up around Dakhla, formerly Villa Gisneros.

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan Says Barre's Troops Retreating

EA291133 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 28 Nov 84

[Text] Reports from the northwest region say loyalist troops of General Barre's 26th Division of the Somali Armed Forces are now retreating to major towns after failing to hold their positions against the ongoing offensive of the Somali opposition forces. The reports confirm that the so-called commander of the 26th division, General Mohamed Hashi Gani, has applied for reinforcements to the regime's headquarters in Mogadishu. The reports add that troops are now being rushed from Bai and Degmada Kismaayu, in particular the Sixth Division of the Somali Armed Forces still loyal to the brutal regime of Siad Barre.

The reports from the northwest region further add that 72 civilians have been shot dead and [words indistinct] 25 others shot dead in the town of Sheekh. The reports say all the persons executed by the regime were arrested at home and shot dead without being taken to a court of law. The reports add that the persons executed in Hargeysa and Sheekh had been accused of supporting the SNM [Somali National Movement] wing of the Somali opposition forces. They included (Jaji Abdullahi Hassan Rakub), (Nur Hawde), and (Mahmud Abdi Goow), who are leading businessmen in Hargeysa, and (Ismail Yusuf Ali), who was working for the Hargeysa commercial bank.

Radio Halgan Claims 200 Arrested in Hijack Affair

EA292311 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 29 Nov

[Text] Reports from Somalia in the past 2 days confirm that the antipeople regime of Mogadishu has arrested over 200 persons all accused of prior knowledge of the hijack of the Somali Airlines aircraft. The Somali Airlines Boeing 707 was hijacked on Saturday, 24 November. The arrested people are now languishing in the torture chambers of the brutal regime of Mogadishu.

The reports add that the arrested people include senior government officers, intellectuals, businessmen, and members of the public. The reports add that the Mogadishu regime is using colonialist and archaic tactics and is now saying the hijackers were from the northern regions of Somalia.

TANZANIA

Foreign Minister Appeals for Continued Food Aid

EA301203 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 0400 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Ndugu Benjamin Mkapa has urged the international community to continue supplying food aid to drought-hit countries in Africa. He made his appeal last night at a dinner party he hosted in honor of the outgoing Australian high commissioner, Doctor John Baker. He said despite the delay in providing aid, there is hope that lives in those countries would be saved, although the effects of the drought would continue to be great. The minister went on to say that continued drought and the problem of desertification had made the lives of 200 million people in Africa difficult.

Minister Mkapa, speaking on relations between Australia and Tanzania, said they are cordial, particularly as both are members of the United Nations and the Commonwealth. He added that Tanzania lauds Australia's opposition to apartheid.

Replying, Dr Baker said his country would continue to isolate South Africa and support liberation fronts in South Africa. He said his country would continue to avoid all sporting links with the oppressive racist regime. On Namibia's independence, the high commissioner said Australia believes that the basis for achieving Namibia's independence remains UN Security Council Resolution No 435. He added that Australia is disappointed by the delay in implementing the resolution.

UGANDA

SFRY Ambassador Meets With Agriculture Minister

LD292012 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1743 GMT 29 Nov 84

["Pool" item]

[Text] Kampala, 29 Nov (UNA) — Uganda's minister of agriculture and forestry, Mr Samuel Mugwisa, on Wednesday, in Kampala commented on the cordial relations existing between Uganda and Yugoslavia.

Speaking in his office to the Yugoslav ambassador to Uganda, Mr. Slavko Aleksic, who had called on the minister, Mr. Mugwisa said the good relations existing between the two countries should be strengthened for the mutual benefit of the peoples of Uganda and Yugoslavia.

The minister told the ambassador that since Uganda was importing substantial agricultural machinery and other inputs from Yugoslavia, it had become necessary for the manufacturers to appoint their agents in Uganda so as to promote trade between the two countries.

Ambassador Aleksic informed the minister that Yugoslavia was a major producer of maize in Europe and as such could help Uganda in promoting food production, especially maize, which could be exported to Uganda's neighbours.

He added that his country is interested in trading in such commodities as coffee, cotton and tea.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Political Group in Paris Denounces Kolingba Regime

AB291801 Paris AFP in French 1547 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Paris, 29 Nov (AFP) — The Association of Central African Nationals in France on Thursday asked President Francois Mitterrand, who will soon visit CAR, to see to it that "human rights are respected" in this country and that "a return to democracy begins there."

At a press conference in Montreuil-Sous-Bois (Paris region), the association, which claims to represent Central African nationals of all political leanings "on individual basis" denounced the dictatorship of President Andre Kolingba's government.

Mr Ambroise Saraga, the association's chairman, expressed his "concern" over CAR's internal situation. He said the constitution has been suspended and political parties and trade unions banned. The authorities engage in "arbitrary arrests" and the country's economic and social situation is "catastrophic."

For his part, Mr Joseph Kitiki, who is a member of the association and a representative of the Association of Central African Workers in France (ATCF), stated that "on the short term, a visit by President Mitterrand to the CAR will be of service to France, but on the long term, what will be the outcome?" According to Mr Kitiki, recent attacks on a French military camp in Bangui (8 October) and the border town of Markounda (9 November) demonstrated the people's "great dissatisfaction."

Mr Kitiki said that the creation of a national union government in Chad and CAR was an urgent need, otherwise there would be a regionalization of the struggle against dictators. The association has called on President Kolingba to "immediately restore the 1981 constitution, release all political prisoners and create a national union government in charge of restoring democracy in the country and revamping the national economy."

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

CFA Franc Zone To Be Joined 1 January 1985

AB292041 Paris AFP in French 1748 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Paris, 29 Nov (AFP) — Claude Cheysson, French minister for external relations, on Thursday presented to the Council of Ministers a draft bill authorizing the approval of the international convention on Equatorial Guinea's entry into the franc zone.

"The protocol signed on 24 August in Yaounde between France and the Bank of Central African States will enable Equatorial Guinea to join the franc zone," the statement of the Council of Ministers pointed out.

It will be recalled that Equatorial Guinea was admitted into the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa (UDEAC) in December 1983. This was the first step in the process of integration of that country into the franc zone. It will become the 23d member of the franc zone.

The local currency, the ekuele, exchanged at fixed parity with the Spanish peseta, will be replaced by the Franc CFA on 1 January 1985.

ZAIRE

Kaunda, Many Leaders Expected for Inauguration

AB291934 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1355 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 29 Nov (AZAP) — Zambian head of state Kenneth Kaunda will personally lead his country's delegation to Kinshasa to attend the swearing-in ceremony of Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, MPR founding chairman and president of the republic, scheduled for 6 December, 1984, it was learned on Thursday from a source close to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The same source says that many other African heads of state are also expected in Kinshasa for the swearing-in ceremony. They are the presidents of Angola, Benin, Burundi, Congo, Cameroon, Gabon, Mozambique, Rwanda, CAR, Togo, and Chad. Morocco will be represented by Heir Apparent Sidi Mohammed, while Senegal will be represented by the speaker of the National Assembly.

From outside the continent, delegations to attend the ceremony are expected from Belgium, France, Portugal, Italy, and the United Kingdom. They will be led by top-ranking officials like Mr Tindemans, Beregovoy [words indistinct] and Vernon Walters for the United States.

This list, which is only provisional, should be taken with the usual reservation while waiting for its official confirmation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

Observers note that President Kaunda's visit to Kinshasa would set to rest rumors that tension exists between Zaire and Zambia.

Briefs

Departing Yugoslav Ambassador — First State Commissioner Kengo wa Dondo this morning received Yugoslav Ambassador Aleksander Stanic who bade him farewell. Mr Stanic, who has spent 4 years in our country, expressed satisfaction about the excellent relations of cooperation existing between Zaire and Yugoslavia. He was particularly happy about the construction of a 120-km high voltage line with Kivu District. [Excerpt] [*Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 29 Nov 84 AB*]

GHANA

PNDC Official on Political Structure, Aid

AB291803 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council coordinating secretary, Mr P.V. Obeng, has said in London that the failure of Western democracies to admit that Westminster-type of democracy is not good for developing countries like Ghana, has led to their quick condemnation of new processes being initiated by such countries to suit their local conditions.

He said Western critics have failed to undertake research into the reasons of rapid change in their former colonies. Mr Obeng was addressing a news conference to round up his official visit to Britain. He said Britain and other Western countries should now change their stand and show more sympathy for the political process that is evolving in Ghana.

As a nonaligned state, Mr Obeng explained, Ghana wants to develop her own political structure with a democratic content that will enable the people to express their views freely and to participate in its functioning. He announced that Ghana will seek some $280 million from Western donors through bilateral sources at next month's [words indistinct] donors conference in Paris. She will also be looking forward for another $220 million from (? international) and multilateral sources for the second 2-year economic recovery program.

Mr Obeng declared: We seek increased commitment from Britain in Paris and she should show her readiness to help in the form of additional aid, loans, or grants, since Ghana is tied to Britain in the field of technology and business and any economic improvement would boost British trade. He added that the expressions of goodwill, sympathy, and support by Ghana's bilateral partners must be translated into reality by the volume of aid given to her.

National Commission on Democracy Meets in Accra

AB292043 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Mr Justice D.F. Annan, a member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] and chairman of the National Commission for Democracy, has emphasized the need to review the entire democratic experiment in the country. This will ensure that basic democracy exists not only on paper, but also as an objective reality in the lives of the people.

He said this at a meeting in Accra today with the staff of the National Commission for Democracy at which he introduced to them the other members of the commission. Mr Justice Annan said the commission held its first meeting today to share ideas on how the commission could work to achieve a truly viable democracy for the nation. He said it is of crucial importance that the new process should survive and not fail. With the achievement of this, he added, military interventions will be a thing of the past.

A member of the commission, Nana Kobina Nketia, said that after 27 years of independence, Ghanaians are still leaving their country to build other peoples' countries for them. He said the commission hopes to initiate discussions for Ghanaians to rediscover themselves.

Dr Ayirebi Acquah of the National Defense Council (NDC), who is also a member of the commission, said the essence of the revolution is to get rid of negative attitudes which do not promote the achievement of social justice. He said the Ghanaian revolution is the first authentic African revolution which will give Africans the chance to assert their dignity.

Other members of the commission are Lieutenant Colonel Christian Dedrah and Mr Sammy Garba of the NDC. The co-opted members are the secretary for local government, Mr F.A. Jantuah, and his under secretary, Miss Gertrude Zakariah.

IVORY COAST

Naval Phase of Military Maneuvers Ends

AB291025 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 0745 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] As far as Comoe 84 [French-Ivorian military maneuvers] is concerned, the naval phase called Operation Belier ended yesterday in our territorial waters off the Ivorian coast. This phase involved four vessels, including two Ivorian vessels, the *Elephant* and the *Intrepide*, the latter playing the role of the enemy vessel to be destroyed. The French vessels were the helicopter carrier, *L'Orage*, and the escort sloop, *(Lamiau Des ville)*. On the whole, the operations were conducted favorably, as is confirmed here by Lieutenant Commander Diomande Melo, the commander of the light transport vessel, the *Elephant*:

[Begin Melo recording] As far as my ship is concerned, we prepared the men as we had been instructed. There was a briefing as you have seen. I am satisfied with the performance of my men. I must also say that generally the maneuver was successful. We have learned a lot. I think one may say without any fear of contradiction that the presence of our French friends has been very useful for us. [end recording]

For his part, the commander of the French vessel *L'Orage*, who was supervising the naval phase of Comoe 84, explained how the operation was conducted and the benefits the Ivorian Navy can derive from participation in such a maneuver.

[Begin French commander recording] The objective of this maneuver was first of all to search for the (?enemy), Commander Dakoury's ship, the *Intrepide*. The task of the fleet was to find this ship. The *Elephant* had to join this fleet in order to watch over the [words indistinct] of Abidjan and the canal of Vridi so as to stop the enemy from entering. I think, therefore, that the *Elephant* has learned how to join a fleet with big ships and that the *Intrepide* has learned how to penetrate and to hide [words indistinct]. This was Operation Belier.

After this, for 2 days — as you have seen — we engaged in training exercises. During this training, we engaged in many

close-action maneuvers. I think you noticed that we were stationed 500 meters from one another [words indistinct]. I do not think the Ivorian Navy always has an opportunity to engage in training exercises with big ships within such short distances. I think this was very positive. We also engaged in firing exercises, which were supervised by (Medavil) and which took place in perfect conditions. I think that there are positive lessons to be derived from these maneuvers, especially from the maneuvers at close quarters. [end recording]

Defense Minister Jean Konan Banny and the French and Ivorian Army chiefs of staff yesterday went on board *L'Orage* to observe the end of this naval phase of Comoe 84.

Joint Commission Meeting With Belgium Begins
AB291503 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Excerpt] The fifth Ivorian-Belgian joint commission meeting began this morning at the Abidjan International Trade Center. The Ivorian delegation is being led by Simeon Ake, minister of foreign affairs, while the Belgian delegation is being led by Francois Xavier de Donnea, minister of cooperation and development. Here is Benjamin Oulai with a report on this joint commission meeting.

The items on the agenda are mainly cultural, economic, technical, and social cooperation, as well as general education, technical training, agriculture, and animal husbandry.

Briefs

Departing Indian Ambassador— Indian ambassador Har Charan Singh Dhody, who has been in the Ivory Coast since 1981, is leaving our country for good. On this occasion, the government gave a dinner in his honor at Hotel Ivoire last Friday. [Excerpt] [*Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 29 Nov 84 p 3 AB*]

LIBERIA

PRC Vice Premier Tian Jiyun Makes Stopover
AB291145 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] The vice prime minister of the People's Republic of China, Mr Tian Jiyun, yesterday made a brief stopover at the Roberts International Airport, RIA, in Marshall Territory while en route to the Federal Republic of Nigeria on an official visit. The Chinese vice premier, who was heading a 20-man delegation, was met upon arrival at RIA by the vice president of the Interim National Assembly (INA), Dr Harry F. Moniba, and the INA acting speaker, Brigadier General Abraham Collie, among others.

Dr Moniba welcomed Vice Premier Tian and his delegation to Liberia and expressed delight at the meeting with the Chinese vice premier. For his part, Vice Premier Tian expressed gratitude for the warm hospitality accorded him and his delegation and said this was a clear manifestation of the cordial relations between China and Liberia. The Chinese vice prime minister later held closed-door discussions with the Liberian Government officials at the airport shortly before his departure for Nigeria.

Vice Premier Tian, who was on his first visit to Africa, departed Sierra Leone yesterday morning en route to Lagos, Nigeria, in continuation of his tour of West African states. He is also expected to visit Benin, Togo, and Mali on a similar mission. The Chinese Embassy officials in Monrovia, including Ambassador Liu Pu, were also at the airport to welcome the Chinese vice prime minister.

NIGER

Kountche Returns From 4-Day Visit To Italy
AB300800 Niamey Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Excerpts] General Seyni Kountche — chairman of the Supreme Military Council, head of state, and current chairman of the Inter-State Committee to Combat Drought in the Sahel [CILSS] — returned to Niamey last night after a 4-day visit to Rome, Italy.

President Kountche's visit to Rome was very successful in regard to the CILSS member states, as well as our country, within the framework of Niger-FAO and Niger-Italy bilateral cooperation.

NIGERIA

Minister Accuses U.S. of 'Campaign of Denigration'
AB291000 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 28 Nov 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government will not condone a situation where campaigns of denigration and calumny are being mounted against the country and its people. The minister of information, youth, sports, and culture, Group Captian Emeka Omerua, stated this in Lagos today.

Speaking during this month's briefing for media executives, Group Capt Omerua said the attention of the government had been drawn to a recent campaign of denigration and harassment reportedly unleashed by U.S. Government officials against Nigerians for alleged criminal activities in that country. He said the latest onslaught on the credibility of Nigeria and its citizens reportedly featured for 5 days in a series of news items on one of America's television networks. In the broadcast, he said, the network alleged that an organized gang of Nigerians existed all over the U.S. to deceive and cripple the American financial establishments. Group Capt Omerua said at different intervals in the program the complicity of half of the Nigerian Consulate was pointedly alleged in the organization and execution of the criminal activities.

The minister said while the Federal Government would always encourage peaceful relations with other nations, it viewed the

current development seriously, noting particularly that the alleged involvement of Nigerian citizens in criminal activities does not necessarily implicate Nigeria as a nation.

'Subversive Publications' Lead To Arrests

AB291040 Lagos NAN in English 1020 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Lagos, Nov . 28 (NAN) — The minister of information, youth, sports and culture, Group Capt. Emeka Omerua, said in Lagos today that some individuals responsible for the circulation of subversive publications in the country had been arrested by security agents.

Speaking during this month's briefing for media executives, Group Capt. Omeruah described those responsible for the publications as detractors and agents of enemies of the Federal Military Government. He disclosed that some of the documents contained information which not only unfairly criticised the various laudable measures adopted by the government, but also calculated to bring the government to disrepute.

He urged members of the public to regard the publications as the last efforts by a few "frustrated and disgruntled deviants in the society to mortgage the development of the country for their selfish, private or group interests."

Group-Capt. Omeruah said that the government remained undaunted in its efforts to revamp the nation's "battered economy" irrespective of opposition from those who had brought the country to the "current woeful situation."

Talks on Cooperation With PRC Begin in Lagos

AB291608 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Nigeria and China began talks today in Lagos on issues of mutual interest. The minister of the federal capital territory, Major General Mamman Vatsa, is leading the Nigerian team to the talks while Chinese Vice Premier Tian Jiyun is at the head of his country's delegation.

At the opening session, Gen Vatsa expressed the hope that the talks will serve to prepare grounds for the second session of the Sino-Nigeria joint commission. He said that during the discussions officials of the two countries will try to identify further areas of cooperation which will be explored for the mutual benefit of [words indistinct].

The two countries had benefited politically, economically, and culturally in the past years due to the existing friendship and bilateral cooperation between them. The minister expressed gratitude to the Chinese authorities for their involvement in Nigeria's development efforts, especially in the area of agriculture and boreholes.

In his remarks, the Chinese vice premier explained that the purpose of his visit was to promote mutual understanding between the peoples of the two countries and find possible areas of further cooperation.

PRC Aid Requested

AB292040 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Nigeria has called for assistance from the PRC for her food production efforts. The call was made by the permanent secretary, Federal Ministry of National Planning, Alhaji Abubakar Alaji, in Lagos today when he received the vice premier of China, Mr Tian Jiyun, in his office.

The permanent secretary also expressed interest in further cooperation with China, especially in the fields of borehole construction. Alhaji Abubakar commended the Chinese people for producing fertilizers from coal and called on them to assist Nigeria to utilize her coal for fertilizer production.

Replying, Mr Tian Jiyun expressed his country's willingness to expand the scope of existing friendship and cooperation with Nigeria.

Spanish Envoy Confirms Repatriation of Sailors

AB291707 Paris AFP in French 1844 GMT 28 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Lagos, 28 Nov (AFP) — Jose Luis Fernandez de Castillejo, Spanish ambassador in Lagos, Wednesday confirmed to AFP in Lagos that he had received a note from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs authorizing the "repatriation" of crew members of the Spanish ship *Izarra* boarded in June and has since been detained in the Port of Calabar (southeastern Nigeria).

Only the captain of the ship (based in St Sebastian in Spanish Basque, but flying Panamanian flag), Jose Luis Pecina, who is currently standing trial in Port Harcourt (200 km from Calabar) for smuggling petroleum products, should remain in Nigeria.

UNHCR Official on Refugee Problem in Africa

AB292025 Paris AFP in French 1735 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Lagos, 29 Nov (AFP) — The number of Chadian refugees in Nigeria has decreased from 100,000 to less than 5,000 following the expulsion last year of nearly 2 million illegal immigrants, Albert-Alain Peters, West African regional representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said in Lagos today.

Nigerian External Relations Minister Ibrahim Gambari said early this year that his country, which has been keeping 50,000 refugees, was one of the densest concentrations of displaced persons in Africa. He added that the UNHCR received only "symbolic or very slight contributions " from most African governments whose inability to honor their commitments he deplored.

Mr Peters, however, congratulated Nigeria, which donated $1 million to the UNHCR during its last meeting in Geneva last July and promised another $100,000 to the UNHCR.

He stated that refugees "needed work to facilitate their integration," and called on governments to lessen the risk of seeing

refugees being sent away or being treated as illegal immigrants. Governments should keep in touch with the UNHCR to determine the status of refugees and avoid the risk of seeing genuine refugees being treated as scapegoats, he added.

UK, U.S. Backing Seen Behind RSA's Intransigence

AB291135 Lagos International Service in English 0950 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Viewpoint]

[Text] Angola's recent announcement of her willingness to effect the withdrawal of Cuban troops from her territory is indeed one of the greatest concessions made in the interest of the independence of Namibia. The Reagan administration in America and the apartheid regime in South Africa have for long been (?insisting) on their demand for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola as the supreme precondition for the granting of independence to Namibia.

The world must have been shocked at the radically negative reaction of this concession. Rejecting out of hand Angola's program for a phased withdrawal of the troops, the apartheid regime has turned round to accuse Angola of insincerity merely because the Angolan Government publicized the proposals. Besides, it is the view of the apartheid regime that the Cuban troops should all be washed out of Angola in one hurried exercise to be completed in a matter of weeks. This attitude, which is in line with the radical policy of frustrating every move that could lead to immediate independence, once more reflects the determination of the apartheid regime to hold the territory under perpetual subjugation.

The history of the efforts by the international community to secure independence for Namibia is heavily loaded with examples of obstructionist maneuvers by the racists. One of the earliest moves by South Africa to stall any progress on Namibia's independence was its claim to Walvis Bay, the only deep sea port in the territory, which it said was transferred to her by Britain. For some time this claim was the great stumbling block to progress in the negotiations for Namibia's independence until the racists, prompted by the Reagan administration, introduced a demand for the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola.

But it is noteworthy that the height of South Africa's intransigence coincided with the coming to power of rightwing governments in Britain and America. They did not disguise their pro-South African commitment. In fact, it was President Reagan that promoted the notorious demand for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola as a precondition for Namibia's independence. Encouraged by the all-out support of the Reagan administration, South Africa has become absolutely unreasonable on the issue of Namibia's independence, even to the point of rejecting Angola's concession to meet the relevant demand for the withdrawal of Cuban troops.

From all indications, and especially with the prospects of continued American backing under President Reagan, South Africa's disregard reflects her determination to hold Namibia under continued servitude. This is a challenge to the international community, which must react with all the means at its disposal to end this block by the racists.

Difficulties in Electing OAU Head Viewed

AB292131 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The rules governing the appointment of the administrative secretary general of the OAU are in Article 16 of the Charter of the organization: First, the secretary general shall be appointed by the assembly of heads of state and government; secondly, the appointment of the secretary general shall not be subject to regional consideration; thirdly, the rules for choosing OAU's chief scribe stipulates that consideration shall first and foremost be given to competence and merit of the candidate who shall also be eligible for reelection; fourthly, nomination of candidates for the post shall be circulated to member states 3 months before election. The fifth criterion is that to clinch the post of secretary general of the OAU, a candidate must secure two-thirds majority vote of the members.

It is recalled that the first secretary general of the OAU was Diallo Telli from the Republic of Guinea. Diallo Telli served two meritorious terms as OAU secretary general. On retirement, he later got into trouble with the late President Ahmed Sekou Toure, detained on charges of high treason and was believed to have died in suspicious and mysterious circumstances.

After him came Nzo Ekangaki of the Republic of Cameroon. Ekangaki, from the observation of OAU watchers, brought two innovations into the office of the OAU secretary general: First, he was flamboyant and attracted a great deal of publicity to his office; secondly, he wanted to strengthen the office by arrogating some executive power to it. But this created a lot of troubles for him. This writer remembers an incident in Lagos in 1973 during the African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries' deliberations on economic negotiations with the EEC. Mr Ekangaki had delivered a powerful speech which was more of a directive to the high-power delegation. Subsequent speakers criticized him for his utterances and (?rebuffed) him.

Unfortunately, Mr Ekangaki also ran into trouble with his own government and therefore was not reelected. A fellow countryman, William Eteki Mboumuah, took over from him. He was generally regarded as a more careful secretary general. The last holder of the position was Edem Kodjo of Togo. Today, Mr Kodjo is still being held responsible for the way he proclaimed the SDAR as a member of the OAU, a pronouncement which rocked the OAU to its foundation for 3 years before the matter was finally resolved in Addis Ababa a couple of weeks ago.

Since the exit of Edem Kodjo, two attempts have been made to elect a new secretary general: One was in Addis Ababa between the 6th and 11th of June last year. Sierra Leone, Gabon, and Mali presented candidates. After 10 rounds of voting without the emergence of a winner, the Sierra Leonian candidate withdrew. Another candidate from Botswana entered the race. After 20 rounds of voting, the OAU heads of state asked the most senior

assistant secretary general, who happened to be Dr Peter Onu of Nigeria, to act as secretary general of the OAU for 1 year. Again this year, Gabon and Mali hotly contested for the post. At the end of six rounds of voting, neither of their candidates won the required two-thirds majority. Then there was a short br[illegible] to provide room for lobbying. On resumption, the Malian candidate withdrew, leaving the Gabonese candidate to try his luck. However, four other rounds of ballot did not make him a winner. Again, Dr Peter Onu was finally asked to continue as acting secretary general.

The question now is: Why is it so difficult for the OAU to elect a new secretary general? The answers to this question are (?many). However, one is more instructive than the others. Past secretaries general have come from French-speaking states. It was echoed in Africa Hall in Addis Ababa, that the French-speaking countries wanted to keep that post as a matter of convention. On the other hand, the English-speaking countries wanted the chain broken in the true spirit of the OAU Charter. This is the major stalemate.

Also, there is the feeling that the post of OAU secretary general may be administrative in outlook, nevertheless, whoever aspired to the office must be a key African figure, not an obscure personality. Moreover, it is being said now that any country presenting a candidate must be prepared to win the support of member states well in advance.

Finally, the most reassuring aspect of it is that the current stalemate has not belittled the (?issues at stake) at the 20th summit of the OAU. But by and large most well wishers of the OAU would want a final solution to the problem of choosing a new secretary general for the organization when members convene for the 21st summit next year.

SIERRA LEONE

Finance Minister Denies Currency Devaluation

AB291220 Paris AFP in English 1058 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Freetown, Nov 29 (AFP) — Sierra Leone's minister of finance, Abdulai Conteh, has denied reports that his country's currency, the Leone, is to be devalued. But he told a press conference Wednesday that because of "evolving circumstances," an "adjustment process" would be needed with or without a programme currently being negotiated with the International Monetary Fund.

Mr. Conteh, speaking a few days after his return from talks with the IMF in Washington, said that Sierra Leone wanted to resolve outstanding issues with the fund "in concert with our economic programme."

On the negotiations with the IMF, the finance minister said Sierra Leone had a one-year standby arrangement with the Fund which was subject to a mid-term review before withdrawals could be completed under that programme.

"All I can say is that we are still negotiating and the prospect is not as gloomy as it should have been," Mr. Conteh said.

He added that the IMF was now aware and sensitive to the conditions in developing countries and "wants to tailor programmes that will address those precarious conditions."

Mr. Conteh said an IMF team should be in the country by the end of the year to complete negotiations, and Sierra Leone's programme could be put "on track."

Mr. Conteh said that both the IMF and the World Bank were concerned about the country's wage bill, and wanted to see subsidies ended on a variety of items, including oil.

On economic prospects for the country, the minister said the greatest drawback was the scarcity of foreign exchange.

He blamed foreign investors who had taken money out of the country, and said the government had resolved to stop this sort of operation.

Mr. Conteh called for "a judicious combination of policies to exploit the resources of Sierra Leone."

BOTSWANA

Masire Announces National Television Service

MB291258 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1110 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Botswana is to have its own national television service. This was announced today by the president, Dr Quett Masire. The government has commissioned studies on the subject and, in the normal round of staff training, an element on television will be included from now on.

President Masire said this at Sebele this morning where he commissioned three new short-wave transmitters, which have given Radio Botswana a complete countrywide coverage at all times of the day and night.

Dr Masire said that the government had deliberately concentrated on radio in recent years because the need for national broadcasting coverage was critical and radio offered the quickest return on investment. But the president pointed out that broadcasting would not be complete without a national television service. The television service will be introduced, as the president put it, in the not-too-distant future. He mentioned that there are immense problems of money and manpower on projects like this, but expressed the belief that such constraints are only short-term.

The government also plans to introduce a second commercial-base radio channel. Small stations will be placed in a number of places to allow broadcasting from districts outside Gaborone.

Dr Masire said also that a new medium-wave station is planned to serve the northwest and Okavango regions. Six new VHF/FM transmitters are to be installed over the next year or so and others will follow in the years to come.

Referring to previous poor transmissions and recent improvement, Dr Masire said that a government which cannot communicate effectively with the people who elected it must inevitably run the risk of being accused of remoteness. The president said that radio broadcasting in Botswana carries a heavy burden of responsibility because of the vast distances in the country, plus continuing transport and telecommunication deficiencies.

He said Radio Botswana had at last acquired enough transmitters of sufficient power to ensure a flexible shortwave service to all areas. There was even some spare transmitting capacity so that when occasionally faults occur, the service could continue almost without interruption while the problem is being solved.

Dr Masire said the project cost nearly 4 million pula and expressed the hope that those working with Radio Botswana will see the seriousness with which the government and the nation view their responsibility. He said the radio equipment was sophisticated and expensive and hundreds of thousands of listeners depend on the Radio Botswana staff for education, information, and entertainment.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Congratulates 'Arafat on Reelection

MB300721 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Text] Samora Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, has sent a message of congratulations to Yasir 'Arafat on his reelection as chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. In the message, Marshal Samora Machel stresses that it was with great satisfaction that the Frelimo Party and the people and Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique learned of Yasir 'Arafat's reelection to that important post.

The Mozambican head of state notes that the PLO symbolizes and embodies the most profound aspirations of the Palestinian people. The PLO stands for the relentless struggle against Zionism and imperialism for the creation of a free, independent, and sovereign Palestinian fatherland, the message says.

President Samora Machel added that throughout his life as a combatant and leader of the organization, Yasir 'Arafat displayed great qualities as a commander and as a staunch supporter of the creation of the Palestinian state where justice, equality, and freedom represent a nation, the historic reality of which Zionism seeks to prevent.

With Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, the living hero of the Palestinian resistance, as leader of the PLO we are certain of the forthcoming victory of the Palestinian people and establishment of a just and lasting peace in the region, states the message from the chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Mauritius

MB291543 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Mozambique and Mauritius have decided to establish formal diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level with effect from today. The decision is aimed at promoting and strengthening the ties of friendship and cooperation existing between the two peoples and states, a Ministry of Foreign Affairs communique reveals.

ANC Official on Reasons for RSA Unrest

MB291130 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 27 Nov 84

[Interview with Keith Mokoape, ANC representative in Maputo, by Iain Christie on the "Spotlight Southern Africa" program — recorded]

[Text] Our guest in the studio is an ANC official in Maputo, Keith Mokoape, and I started by asking him what he thought was behind the recent wave of unrest in the South African townships.

[Begin recording] [Mokoape] The reasons for this are that the Constitution itself was a farce. The elections themselves were a mockery. The Indian and the colored people completely rejected the so-called new dispensation and the African people have shown in many forms of united action that the Constitution has got to be rendered unworkable, the people must be ungovernable, and this goes with the call by the ANC that the people must rise. We must make this Constitution — all sections of the people must make this Constitution — unworkable. The system must fail to govern the people as it wishes. So, this wave of unrest is not undirectional. It is directed toward forcing the government to listen to the aspirations of the people. It is directed at calling on the people, that the Constitution as it is has got to be completely thrown into the dustbin of history — that is where it belongs.

[Christie] Then, as part of this campaign, there was the 2-day stay-away in Transvaal Province. Why do you think that was so successful?

[Mokoape] The stay-away in the Transvaal was organized by community organizations, by the trade union movement, by the youth and student organizations, and women's organizations to protest, among other things, such as the high rent, at the high GST [General Sales Tax], at the failure of the government to consult the people whenever it has got new forms that it has got to use to repress the community. So, the stay-away is a result of the unity in action that has been (?formed) throughout the last (?month) and it expresses itself in this very significant way in which people can rise as one to a call, and this stay-away has been felt by both industry, by the government, and such forms of action are going to repeat themselves and we are going to see more and more measures of sucess.

[Christie] Now, one of the reasons behind the stay-away was the United Democratic Front, the UDF. The South African Government has (?expressly) accused the UDF of being nothing more than a front for the ANC. Could you comment on that?

[Mokoape] The South African Government does not wish to acknowledge that it fails to satisfy the aspirations of the people. The ANC stands for nothing else but that no government can (?justify) authority unless it is based on the will of all the people. And that is what the UDF (?is for). The UDF is simply expressing what in 1955 the ANC, together with other congressess, expressed in the Freedom charter. And for them to come and say that the UDF is a front of the ANC is to deny that the people themselves, without being agitated upon, are able to see what lies at the root of their oppression. So, the UDF is no front for the ANC. The UDF is an organization that stems from what the people want and the people want freedom. The people want participation in the day-to-day rules, laws that govern their (?lives), and, even if the government bans the UDF because of their strategies [word indistinct] preparing the white community to not ask questions when the UDF is banned, even if the UDF is banned, other organizations will spring up and will express exactly the same things that the UDF now expresses.

[Christie] Now, what do you think is the implication of all this unrest in the country to the South African Government, both inside the country and internationally?

[Mokoape] The South African Government has got no political base. It is a government that rules by force. It keeps its stay in government by force. Already its first line of defense — the police — that first line will collapse and in the townships it has been shown that the police have got to call upon the Army. It has got to call upon other security forces to maintain law and order. Now if, as a people, they have completely shown that by their own action, nonviolent action for that (?matter), have shown that they are not satisfied with the present regime, then the South African Government must know that it speaks for nobody, but for their [words indistinct].

This has been made clear on several occasions, and already that is why there have been so many splits within [word indistinct] itself, the Nationalist Party itself. We have the rightwingers expressed as the conservatives, we have the Herstige Nasionale Party. On the other hand you have the Progressive Federal Party, PFP [words indistinct] (?recently) that their rules themselves are going to be based on exactly what the future of South Africa is going to take in view of this current unrest. So, internally the South African Government has completely lost its authority, has completely lost its hold. What remains is just to give the last final push — the total onslaught as they have been calling it. We have got to organize ourselves, mobilize ourselves to completely overthrow this regime. It is incapable of reforming itself.

On the international scene, South Africa has been completely isolated. The international community must continue this isolation, must intensify all forms of isolation — cultural boycotts, economic sanctions, arms embargoes — and the South African Government must not be allowed to use the new dispensation to say that it is reforming, and given a chance then everybody will be allowed into government. The international community must understand that the apartheid system is a form of Naziism, and to destroy Naziism in Hitler's Germany the whole of progressive mankind had to combine efforts to not allow it to reform itself but to destroy it and this is what should happen. The Nationalist Party is an offspring, is the continuation of the Ossewa-Brandwag [Ox-wagon Guards] which had been part and parcel of Hitler's political strategy. We have got to intensify efforts to isolate the South African regime and give it no credibility at all.

[Christie] Now, since this unrest began, ever since the Indian and colored elections in South Africa, the international press has given South Africa what is basically very bad publicity. Perhaps no more than usual. Do you think there is a reason why this is happening now?

[Mokoape] Well, as is clear South Africa produces gold, the biggest amount of gold in the Western world. South Africa has become a major supplier of several key minerals. The whole of the Western economy rests a great deal on South Africa and that is why in parliamentary elections, even in presidential elections, as was illustrated in the United States, the South African question is raised sharply. So, this naturally brings a lot of attention to the South African system, and the South African Government wants to say to the West that (?it has) to maintain the status quo, it is protecting the sea routes that are vital to the West, and as a result there has been this focus, primarily because — especially because — this unrest is not going to stop, it is not going to reach some cul de sac.

The Federation of South African Women has called for a black Christmas. Several organizations have shown great determination to learn from the past action to see how they will intensify the [words indistinct]. So, this is going to go on and it can only carry weight in the victory of the popular forces, and that victory will come about when we have seized power. So, what we are seeing unfolding in South Africa now is this process of transition. Indeed, it is a process of transition and has been influenced by the fact that (?we see) 9 years of independence in Mozambique, we see Zimbabwe as a free black state developing despite problems that face a newly developed country. You see Namibia about to be free, we see SWAPO being capable of handling the South African Army, and all these developments emphasize that the strategic line now is towards complete seizure of power, towards the new form of relations — political relations — [words indistinct] and that is why there is so much publicity about [words indistinct].

[Christie] One final question. All of this is going on at a time of [words indistinct] inflation, rising unemployment and the collapsing body [word indistinct]. What is the ANC's view of this economic crisis?

[Mokoape] Our view is that the South African Army is spending huge sums of money oppressing the people of Namibia, occupying portions of Angola. Towards this end they are spending 2 million plus rand per day, and our position is that the South African Army is experimenting with political [word indistinct] such as [words indistinct], colored puppets, Indian puppets have now been elevated to levels of parliamentarian, Cabinet ministers. Huge sums of money [words indistinct], and the South African Government recruits, trains, maintains, and then gives missions to bandits throughout southern Africa — the Mozambican National Resistance, the so-called Lesotho Liberation Army, the bandits coming from Zimbabwe, the UNITA — to do all this kind of thing and pays a hell of a lot of money.

The South African Government is spending a lot of money to maintain the apartheid system itself, to go home to the locations [as heard] to keep an eye on the people who are in revolt it costs a [word indistinct]. There is no way one can see the situation coming on [word indistinct] in the near future, and therefore South Africa is going to be plunged more and more into an economic crisis. The value of the rand is not going to rise at all, it is not going to improve at all.

Already the mine workers have flexed their muscles, they are being unionized by the Mine Workers' Union, and the future is a future of bleakness, is a future of revolt, is a future of a people who are refusing to be governed by the Botha government, is a future wherein all progressive mankind must invest, not in that government, not with that government, but in the progressive forces (?operated) by the ANC. So, for the ANC this economic crisis is part of what (?we have been calling for) — mandatory economic sanctions, arms embargo, isolation, no loans from the IMF or from any other Western governments, and that the people must rise up and overthrow the regime.

So, for us these are positive developments and we are calling on Africa — we are calling on the African states — not to [word indistinct] the economy [words indistinct] but should rather help push — the final push — ward the overthrow of the governm and establishment of new political relations in South Afric based on justice, on nonracialism, on democracy, and peace. [end recording]

AFP Examines Problems of Drought, Famine

AB291656 Paris AFP in English 1633 GMT 29 Nov 84

[By Tim Cooke]

[Text] Maputo, Nov 29 (AFP) — Food aid and harvested crops are fast running out in drought-hit areas of Mozambique, where up to 200,000 people have died over the past two years as a result of famine.

The situation is aggravated by a crippling shortage of transport in many areas, as well as by activity by anti-government rebels that hampers food distribution. The critical period is expected to last until next year's harvest.

Mozambique, along with Ethiopia, Chad and Sudan, is one of the chief victims of drought that is affecting many parts of Africa. At least four of Mozambique's 10 provinces are seriously affected — in the northwest, centre and south of the country.

Official reports say the situation in the northwestern Province of Tete is worsening steadily, with 470,000 people, 75 percent of the population, affected. In the central Province of Manica, 300,000 people are affected by the drought, according to official figures, although the authorities say that isolation and poor communications make accurate estimates almost impossible.

The most seriously hit districts of Manica are Mossurize in the south and Guro in the north, with four to six people dying every day in some areas. Several thousand people have died in Tete Province in the past year and more than 50,000 have left their homes in search of food, mainly going to Zimbabwe and the fertile regions in the north of the province. About half of these refugees have returned or are expected to return shortly, and they are aggravating a situation where food stocks are already running out, and there is a critical shortage of transport and fuel.

The U.S. nongovernmental organisation, Care, and the World Lutheran Federation are providing trucks, and the United Nations' Children's Fund, UNICEF, is trying to deal with the fuel shortage.

Medicine is also reported to be in very short supply and scattered rain now falling in some areas is making road travel difficult.

In Manica, the authorities say activity of the rebel Mozambique Resistance Movement (MNR) is "seriously aggravating" the situation, with most roads considered unsafe, and several areas inaccessible by road because of ambushes. The authorities say food, seeds and clothing are needed in large quantities. The Mozambican Red Cross has rented a DC-3 aircraft to fly in relief supplies. The governmental natural disasters commission has only four operational trucks in the entire province, although more are expected in January.

In Inhambane Province in southern Mozambique, large numbers of people are reported to be fleeing their homes in search of food and to get away from the MNR. Inhambane was the worst affected province in 1983, with more than 100,000 people dying of starvation.

The death rate seems to have declined, although no official figures are available, but the authorities say the situation is serious in more than 30 areas in the north of the province. Large numbers of children, many of them orphans, are still in emergency camps, and transport is "critically short," with some people walking up to 100 kms (60 miles) for their food rations.

The Swedish aid organisation has provided large Volvo trucks, but smaller trucks are needed for the more remote areas. Many roads are closed or considered not advisable because of rebel attacks.

The World food programme, which is in charge of food distribution, is using boats and landing craft to get relief supplies to the northern areas of Inhambane.

In Gaza Province, adjacent to Inhambane, the authorities say the situation has deteriorated in the past six months. Some areas have had no rain for five years. While there are few problems with security or fuel, there are serious shortages of water, agricultural equipment, seeds, transport, means of communication, health facilities and medicine. In some areas of Gaza, three to four people are dying daily, and the authorities say food supplies are needed "very soon."

NAMIBIA

RSA's Meiring Says SWAPO Moving Toward Border

MB291251 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1205 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Windhoek, Nov 29, SAPA — SWAPO's military wing has begun moving small advance groups in Angola southwards to the SWA/Namibian border in preparation for its annual seasonal infiltration campaign into the territory, military spokesmen said in Windhoek today.

The armed incursion of SWAPO, to include the northern farming districts of Tsumeb, is expected to begin in mid-December and reach its peak in mid-February.

"We do not expect deviations from the trends of previous years," said the officer commanding the SWA Territory Force, Major-General George Meiring.

The activities of the South African-Angolan Joint Monitoring Commission would slow down SWAPO armed insurgents, but it was clear that the Angolan Government could not completely control SWAPO because of the vast surface area covered by dense foliage after recent rains.

A senior staff officer of the SWATF headquarters in Windhoek, Colonel Johan Vorster, told a media conference that a "significant" number of SWAPO insurgents had assembled in south-western Angola about 400 km from the border with SWA/Namibia.

SWAPO's military wing — the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) — were occupied in the area "with considerable logistical preparations in support of this planned offensive," he said.

The present situation was that about 50 per cent of PLAN's estimated 8,000 men were engaged in combat on the side of Angolan Government troops against UNITA in the area south-east of Luanda.

Security forces expected that at the beginning of next year, PLAN would be in a position to move down no more than 13 per cent of its total trained manpower for the push into SWA/Namibia.

SWAPO was expected to aim at blanket infiltration of Ovambo and Kavango to strengthen the organisations weakened political base among civilians, Colonel Vorster said.

PLAN's tactics would include "hit and run actions in areas with high population density in Ovambo, particularly to improve the situation of terrorists who want to settle among the population."

To create "a strong man's image," SWAPO planned to bombard with mortars security forces positions during the night "to prove to the people that they are able to act in an offensive against the security forces."

In view of the 554 SWAPO insurgents killed in action this year and the depleted ranks of PLAN's "special unit," military authorities anticipated a "once only" attempt by a small group to infiltrate the Tsumeb-Grootfontein farming districts.

The overall purpose was that SWAPO was hoping to give impetus to its internal political action through selective intimidation and sabotage in urban areas south of the operational area.

The security forces had taken appropriate measures and did not anticipate "serious difficulties" in countering the planned infiltration, he said.

The situation inside SWA/Namibia was that a small group of insurgents were maintaining a low profile in western Ovambo, while causing sporadic incidents.

"Their effort is aimed purely at survival and specifically at avoiding being tracked down by the security forces.

"Despite that, a good (SWAPO) loss ratio is being maintained and the terrorists inside the country are in reality being eliminated."

In Kavango, there were a total of 26 "special unit" insurgents who were relatively inactive.

General Meiring said in summary that SWAPO's infiltration effort was aimed at re-establishing itself and to firm its "shaky" political power base.

"We are able and capable of preventing SWAPO from scoring any successes with its offensive." The general added it would be a pity if SWAPO's latest military programme jeopardised peace initiatives in southern Africa.

Meiring Says JMC Registers 87 Violations

MB291432 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1401 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Windhoek, Nov 29, SAPA — The South African-Angolan Joint Monitoring Commission [JMC] had registered 87 violations since its formation on February 16, Major-General George Meiring, the officer commanding the SWA Territory Force, said in Windhoek today.

He told a media conference that three of the violations were blamed on South Africa, while most of the rest were caused by SWAPO, for which the Angolan Government had to accept responsibility.

The JMC last met 10 days ago and proposed that a cabinet-level meeting between South Africa and Angola be called "as soon as possible" to decide on the final withdrawal of South African troops from Angola.

The JMC meeting focused on a course of action to ensure peace and stability along the international frontier between SWA/Namibia and Angola after the JMC has concluded its programme.

The JMC began overseeing the gradual disengagement of South African forces at Cuvelai, more than 200km into Angola, which halted its southwards movement some months ago at Ngiva, less than 50km from the SWA/Namibian border.

South Africa has said it could not complete the trek southwards in view of SWAPO insurgents in the area who have to be kept out of land vacated by South African forces.

General Meiring said good rains had covered vast areas of south-western Angola, and the dense foliage made it difficult to detect human movement.

"It is clear to us that it is not always possible for the MPLA regime to exercise proper control over SWAPO," he said. He said earlier that SWAPO was expected to press ahead with military plans next month for the movements regular summer offensive.

SOUTH AFRICA

Reportage on Parliamentary Elections

NP Wins 3 By-Elections

MB300605 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Text] The National Party [NP] has won the parliamentary by-elections in the constituencies of Primrose in the Transvaal, and Parow and George in the Cape, as well as the provincial by-elections in Parow and George. The results of the provincial by-elections in Piketberg, and the elections for the House of Representatives in the constituencies of Steinkopf and Nuweveld in the Cape, have not yet been received.

In Primrose, the NP candidate, Dr Piet Welgemoed, polled 6,053 votes, and Mr Schalk Pienaar of the Conservative Party [CP], 5,305. The NP majority was 748, with a percentage poll of 55.8. There were six spoiled papers. In 1981, Dr Piet Koornhof, who has since been appointed chairman of the President's Council, had a majority of 4,399 for the NP. Percentage poll then was 59.7. The Herstigte Nasional Party [HNP] and the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] opposed the NP in that election. At the time, the HNP polled 2,056 votes, and the PFP 730

In George, Mr H.A. Smit of the NP received 6,501 in the parliamentary by-election. Mr A.S. Treunicht of the HNP received 1,835 votes, and Mr (J.V. De Aar van Ghent), of the PFP, 1,249. The NP majority is 4,665, the percentage poll was 56.7, and there were 185 spoiled papers. In 1981, the NP majority was 5,604, and the percentage poll 73.8.

In the provincial by-election in George, the NP candidate, Mr (D.P. Kellerman), got 6,474 votes. Mr (P.J.W. Murray) of the PFP received 1,704 votes, and the percentage poll was 56.7, and there were 267 spoiled papers. In 1981 the NP majority was 5,102, and the percentage poll 73.8. Mr (H.S. van Zyl) of the HNP had 1,286 votes.

In the parliamentary by-election in Parow, Mr (H.J. Kriel) of the NP won with a majority of 5,113. He received 6,532 votes, and the CP candidate, Mrs (E. Lombard), received 1,419. The percentage poll was 47.7, and there were 233 spoiled papers. In 1981, the NP majority was 6,488, and the percentage poll 60.

In the provincial by-election in Parow, the NP had a majority of 5,008 votes. Mr (I.J. Pretorius) of the NP received 6,449 votes and Mr (R.W.Louw) of the CP 1,441. The percentage poll w. 47.7, and there were 288 spoiled papers. In 1981 the NP candidate was returned unopposed.

The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, says that in the light of the results, the government can carry out its overwhelming task with confidence. Reacting to the results of the by-elections, he said that, despite the unfavorable international and local economic conditions, and their exploitation by irresponsible politicians, the results proved the inability of the opposition parties to achieve the necessary results.

The Transvaal NP leader, Mr F.W. de Klerk, said he was satisfied with the Primrose results. He saw it as a possible turning point in Transvaal politics, and he told our political staff it had to be seen against the backdrop of the 1982 by-election, when the combined force of the CP and the HNP polled 5,791 votes in the constituency of Germiston District, and the NP 3,867. He said Germiston District and Primrose were almost identical, and showed a significant improvement in the NP support since the break-away in 1981.

The leader of the CP, Dr Andries Treurnicht, said after the announcement of the Primrose results that he was satisfied with

his party's progress. He said the results showed the swing to the right, and as a result, every white constituency in Transvaal now was within reach of the CP. Dr Treurnicht said his party did not plan to force more by-elections by having some of its parliamentarians resign at this state.

The leader of the PFP, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, said he was slightly disappointed with his party's progress in the George constituency, but the party had entered the election contest there to build itself up. He had hoped the PFP would retain its deposit, but under the circumstances he was satisfied. Dr Slabbert said he believed the recent disagreement in the party on conscription and open party membership had had very little effect on the results. He said the right wing had not made as much progress as it had hoped to, and had been contained in George, but in Primrose it had made significant progress.

LP Wins Cape Election

MB301105 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Text] The colored parliamentary election in the Cape constituency of Steinkopf has been won by the Labor Party [LP]. LP candidate Abe Balie drew 2,118 votes to give Labor a 1,670-vote majority over the People's Congress Party candidate, C.D. Arries. The percentage poll was 21.4 percent, more than 10 percent down from the 34 percent poll in the August colored election. LP leader Allan Hendrickse says there are reasons for the low poll.

[Begin Hendrickse recording] It was expected we would win, and one of the contributary factors to the low percentage poll is the fact that people knew that we would win — in any case, something like 2,000 against 400. That would be one of the reasons. By-elections always have a lower percentage poll. But the question was that there was no competition, really. When you know that the result is a foregone conclusion, there is a general apathy, really. [end recording]

LP Loses Nuweveld Election

MB301157 Johannesburg Domestic Servce in English 1115 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Text] The Labour Party [LP] has lost its seat to the People's Congress Party [PCP] in the House of Representatives by-election in Nuweveld. The PCP majority was 266 and the percentage poll 36.5. There were 63 spoiled papers.

In the August election for the House of Representatives, the LP won the seat with a majority of 3,990 votes. The August percentage poll was 42.

3 Black Leaders Arrested at Embassy in U.S.

MB291922 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Three more black leaders have been arrested in Washington on charges of unauthorized entry of the South African Embassy grounds. Democratic Congressman Ronald Dellums of California, Vice President of the United Auto Workers' Union Marc Stepp, and the District of Columbia City Council Member Hilda Mason were taken into custody when they refused to leave the front steps of the building after being denied a meeting with the South African ambassador, Dr Brand Fourie.

Before yesterday's arrest, the three took part in a peaceful sidewalk demonstration protesting against South Africa's apartheid policies and the arrests of 13 black leaders 3 weeks ago.

35 Arrested During Demonstration in Johannesburg

MB291810 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1806 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 29, SAPA — A total of 35 people were arrested outside the University of the Witwatersrand during a demonstration against detentions this evening and all charged under the Internal Security Act, police said tonight.

A two-man UPITN television crew detained while filming the demonstration were released without being charged.

Senior police spokesman, Colonel Fred Bull, told SAPA the 35 — 19 white women, 15 white men and a coloured woman — were released after being charged and warned to appear in the Hillbrow Magistrates Court tomorrow morning.

They had contravened Article 57 (1c) of the Internal Security Act, the colonel said.

A UPITN spokesman, Mr Roger Harris, told SAPA no charges had been laid against the pair, and their equipment and film had been returned intact. He added police had viewed the video film the crew had taken during the demonstration.

Eyewitnesses reported the demonstrators were mostly young students carrying placards reading "Release All Detainees," but the director of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies at Wits, Prof John Dugard, was also reported to be among those detained.

The pickets had heeded a call by churches and civil rights organisations to join a day of protest at mass detentions.

The arrests took place on Jan Smuts Avenue — one of the busiest Johannesburg arteries to the northern suburbs — in the middle of the afternoon peak hour.

SWAZILAND

Mnisi Advocates Negotiations in Solving Problems

MB291742 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Mhambi Mnisi, today said her majesty's government still believes in the vehicle of peaceful negotiations to solve international and internal problems. Addressing a press conference at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this morning, Mr Mnisi told journalists that those who

do not understand this philosophy of solving problems may interpret our stand as cowardice and as a lack of commitment to world peace.

But the tool of negotiation under a good spirit is the sharpest weapon to victory.

Mr Mnisi said when he was attending a luncheon in honor of the 39th president of the UN General Assembly, Mr H. E. Ambassador Paul Lusaka in New York, he preached the gospel of holding peaceful talks when solving problems, adding that during the 20th summit of the OAU in Addis Ababa, he also encouraged the member states to learn to go to the negotiation table whenever they meet some problems.

As a result, some diplomats accredited to Swaziland, including the secretary general of the United Nations, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, highly appreciated this good way of solving international problems.

He said Dr Perez de Cuellar has written him a letter as the minister for foreign affairs thanking him for the thoughtful statements he made on behalf of her majesty's government when he was attending a conference at the UN Headquarters in New York recently.

The letter reads:

I should like to thank you for the firm recommitment of your country to the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and for your kind references to my own efforts in the course of peace.

Such expressions of support provide deep encouragement not only to me personally, but also to the entire organization as we approach our 40th anniversary.

PAC Delegation Calls on Liqoqo, To Leave Saturday

MB291631 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] A 4-man Pan African Congress, PAC, delegation yesterday called on the Supreme Council of State, Liqoqo, at Lobamba and expressed their condolences on behalf of their organization following the demise of the late King Sobhuza II.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the Liqoqo will in turn convey PAC's condolences to the head of state, Her Majesty the Queen Regent Ntombi.

The ministry said the 4-man PAC delegation, which could not attend his majesty's state funeral 2 years ago, leaves the country this coming Saturday for the PAC head office in London.

ZIMBABWE

Italian Official Meets With Robert Mugabe

AU291947 Rome ANSA in English 1930 GMT 29 Nov 84

[Text] (ANSA) Harare, Zimbabwe, November 29 — Zimbabwean Premier Robert Mugabe voiced satisfaction at Italy's continual support for the nations of southern Africa in a meeting here today with Italian Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs Mario Raffaelli.

Raffaelli arrived here for an official visit on Monday. Mugabe reminded him that the bonds between Italy and Zimbabwe are "solid and date back to the liberation struggle" against White supremacist rule.

According to the prime minister, the three factors in these bonds are the excellent relations between the two governments, an equally good relation between the two peoples, and the prospects for a significant Italian contribution to Zimbabwe's development.

Yesterday, Italy and Zimbabwe signed a three-year cooperation agreement, covering 1985-87. Italy [words indistinct] contribute 55 million dollars to various development projects in agriculture, infrastructures, civil building programmes, telecommunications, and health.

ZAPU Secretary General Discussses Resignation

MB300730 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 30 Nov 84

[Text] The ZAPU secretary general, Comrade Caiphus Msipa, has resigned. Comrade Msipa confirmed his resignation in an interview with the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation yesterday.

The former ZAPU secretary general said when he accepted the post of secretary general, he hoped that he would work for reconciliation between ZAPU and ZANU-PF. He explained that events of the past year [words indistinct] about lengthy talks between ZAPU and ZANU-PF. Comrade Msipa said his resignation had been prompted by his quest for peace in Zimbabwe. He said as secretary general of ZAPU he [words indistinct]. He added that the mistrust between the two parties is unhealthy and intolerable [word indistinct].

Comrade Msipa says he finds it difficult to operate in an atmosphere where mistrust is prevalant. Asked about his future political plans, Comrade Msipa said he wants to study the situation more objectively before deciding what to do.